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ISLAMIC SUMMIT IN MECCA PLANNED FOR 1981

LD281047 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 May 80 p 1

[Yunis Muhammad Ishaq report: "Preparations Underway for Islamic Summit in Mecca"]

[Excerpt] Jiddah--Qasim Zuhayri, assistant general secretary of the World Islamic Congress, has confirmed to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the Islamic summit, which is to be attended by kings and heads of Islamic states, will be held in holy Mecca in Rabi' al-Awwal of the next Hegira year [corresponding to January 1981].

He said that the congress, which will discuss a number of major topics and issues, will be a good occasion to emphasize the depth of the concept of Islamic solidarity.

The general secretary also said that the three-man committee set up by the recent Islamic foreign ministers' conference held in Islamabad, which includes in its membership the Islamic Congress General Secretary Habib Chatti, Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh, and Pakistani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Agha Shahi, will begin its meeting next month in order to begin its fact-finding mission on the Afghanistan crisis and to discuss means of a withdrawal of Soviet forces from there and guaranteeing Afghanistan's independence.

Zuhayri added that the committee will hold intensive contacts of various levels with the countries concerned with solving the Afghanistan problem and reaching an acceptable formula ensuring the Afghan people's right to self-determination.

He said that the committee's efforts will include holding contacts with the Kremlin leaders with the aim of achieving peace and stability in this Muslim country. But he ruled out the possibility of the committee holding contacts with Babrak Karmal's present regime there.

Zuhayri said that as soon as the committee completes its fact-finding mission on the situation in Afghanistan it will submit a report to the Islamic foreign ministers who will hold an extraordinary meeting in New York. This would be part of efforts being made to initiate an Islamic move within the United Nations at its coming 35th session as well as to prompt the world community to shoulder its responsibility toward the situation in Afghanistan and toward resolving the problem in the interest of peace in the area.

Replying to a question regarding Pakistan's plan for security of the Islamic states, Zuhayri said that the draft plan which Pakistan submitted to the foreign ministers' conference has undergone many changes and alterations so that a plan will be worked out that would be acceptable to all the Islamic countries. He said that the plan in question underlines the security of the Islamic states and the need to strengthen it through Islamic solidarity in accordance with the principles and objectives of the charter of the Islamic Congress and the nonalignment conference.

PAPER CALLS FOR RESOLUTE ISLAMIC STAND OVER JERUSALEM

LD271247 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 23 May 80 p 5

["Irfan Nizam ad-Din article: "The Initiative and the Final Aim"]

[Excerpts] The Islamic peace initiative for Afghanistan is a good positive step and a cause for satisfaction, despite the doubts that are being raised here and there about the possibilities of its success and ability to resolve this complex and multidimensional crisis.

Although it is illogical for us to anticipate events with regard to the Islamic initiative in Afghanistan, the current situation requires effective initiatives with regard to another principal issue namely, the Palestine cause and the liberation of Jerusalem from the clutches of occupation, Judaization and the plot of annexation.

The required initiative is one that would mobilize resources and capabilities and regard the issue of Palestine and Jerusalem a question of life or death and that would confront the big states with an established fact: find a just and comprehensive solution to this issue or gain the enmity of all the Islamic states for all time.

It is no exaggeration to say that the possibilities of success are available at any time if a unified, serious and resolute Islamic stand is adopted. For example, if a definite decision is taken to cut off oil to any foreign state which recognizes Jerusalem as Israel's capital, an important step will have been made toward the attainment of the final aim.

PLO SUPPORT FOR USSR AT ISLAMABAD CONFERENCE HIT

LD271047 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 23 May 80 p 5

[Jihand al-Khazin article: "An Attitude Difficult To Defend"]

[Text] At a time when the Fatah movement is convening an emergency conference in Damascus, the PLO representative at the Islamabad conference goes against the current there by trying to defend the Soviet Union.

From a purely Palestinian standpoint, aside from the other considerations some of which are very important, it appears that the Palestinian attitude adopted in Islamabad is prejudicial to the Palestinian cause because it contradicts the stand agreed upon by the biggest group which supports the Palestinian cause--the Islamic group.

It is not enough for the Fatah leadership to preoccupy itself with its conference in Damascus. The Islamabad conference is discussing an issue which could be fateful to some of the participant states. The level of PLO representation should have been commensurate with the importance of the conference. It should have sent Faruq Qaddumi (Abu al-Lutuf), head of the political office, instead of Yasir 'Arafat's adviser, who is not from Fatah.

Although the Palestinian stand in Islamabad is simple to explain, it still might not be accepted by the Islamic states. The PLO justifies its attitude by saying that it could find nobody but the Soviet Union to support it against the continued American support for Israel against it and, by defending the Soviet Union, it is trying to avenge the American anti-PLO stand.

The fault in this attitude is that American hostility to legitimate Palestinian aspirations does not mean that the Soviet Union is a sincere friend at all. The Kremlin's verbal stands cost it nothing, nor do they bring the Palestinians any closer to the attainment of their aspirations, but take them further away by branding them as supporters of communism, despite the fact that the Palestinian revolution has nothing to do with Marxist theory.

Perhaps it is not too late to rectify the situation in Islamabad because it is unreasonable for the PLO to defend the Soviet Union when countries which are bound to the Soviet Union by treaties of friendship or other stronger bonds remain silent.

Conference sources have stated that the Palestinian delegation seeks Soviet repayment for its stand in the form of increased Soviet support for the Palestinian cause and arms and ammunition for the Palestinian fighters.

This might not be true, but nothing can justify the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan because freedom, justice and peoples' rights are absolute quantities and no Arab can accept for Afghanistan or for any other place in the world what he rejects for Palestine.

Moreover, the Soviet Union is basically incapable of giving help, even when it wants to. So how about when it does not want to? It is hoped that the PLO will reconsider the situation and realize that it cannot just leave the responsibility at important conferences to second-rank officials who adopt attitudes which the PLO will not be able to rectify later.

HEBRON MAYOR SCORES ARAB NATION'S 'LENIENCY' TOWARD U.S.

LD271241 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 21 May 80 p 17

[Interview given to 'Adnan al-Katib by Hebron Mayor Fahd al-Qawasimah in New York--date not given]

[Excerpt] New York--[Question] In its declared stances, the U.S. administration claims to be very interested in the question of Palestinian rights but, at the same time, it opposes any resolution adopted by the United Nations calling for practical steps to enable the Palestinians to regain their rights. Were you to be given an opportunity to meet with U.S. President Carter, what would you tell him?

[Answer] I would tell him that the president of the biggest state in the world must not hesitate to make decisions, nor must he succumb to blackmail. President Carter says one thing and does the opposite. He said that settlement in the occupied territories was illegal, but it was he who gave money to Israel to build settlements on our land; President Carter promised a national homeland for the Palestinians, but then changed his mind. President Carter signed an agreement in the United States between him and Brezhnev, but later abrogated it. President Carter voted at the Security Council against settlements, but tried the next day to deny his approval by claiming that there was a fault in the communications. President Carter spoke about human rights--the mission he has been upholding since the first day he assumed office--but the U.S. delegate at the Security Council opposed the resolution which called for the return of three citizens, who are legally and democratically elected, to their country and homeland. I would tell him: After all this, do you, Mr President, expect me to believe that you are searching for a just peace and that you care for what is right, for justice and for humanity, especially after all that I, as a Palestinian citizen, and my people in the occupied territory have suffered as a result of your policy?

[Question] Then you do not expect any improvement in the U.S. position during the American elections period?

[Answer] In fact, I do not expect anything from the United States, either before or after the elections. As long as the United States adopts the racist entity as a strike force in the Middle East to dominate the area, there will be neither peace nor justice.

The United States goes not differentiate between 150 million Arabs and its interests and 3 million Israelis. I say that the blame does not fall on the United States but on the Arab states.

It falls on Damascus, Amman, Baghdad, Hejaz and every Arab state. We are the cause because we accept such things. If the United States had been sure that the Arab nation's leadership would adopt stands to safeguard the interests of the Arab homeland, it would have changed its policy. What have we done for the Palestinian people's cause to make the United States change its stand? Did we, for example, think of protesting against the United States. Did we, for example, think of exerting oil pressure on it. Did we, for example, think of exerting economic pressure on it? Did we ever think of dotting the i's and crossing the t's for it? Why should the United States change its stand when we are lenient toward it and give it all facilities? Our problem is here, not in Washington nor at the White House. Our problem is in Amman, Damascus, Riyadh and Baghdad. The Arab leadership must rethink and redefine its relations according to the principles: We befriend those who befriend us and antagonize those who antagonize us.

[Question] The United Nations is making preparations to convene a special extraordinary session of the UN General Assembly on the Palestinian national rights. What do you expect of such a session?

[Answer] In fact, we try at the United Nations to project the Palestinian identity and to put it in its proper perspective. As you know, we have achieved many successes and the majority of the world states now recognize our presence and rights and the PLO and all its establishments. Every year we try to win more support for our struggle and for our aspirations on the international level and on the level of individual states. We do not expect anything more from the world because the problem cannot be solved by UN resolutions. Our problem can be solved on the Palestinian borders. It can be solved through Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Sinai. The more military strength we possess and the more will and determination we have to regain our rights, the more the world will respect us and the more resolutions we will have in our favor. But the question is not one of sympathy. We have obtained a UN resolution calling for the return of 3 citizens [to their homeland] but we have not been able to implement this resolution. So, do you expect UN resolutions to repatriate 3 million Palestinian refugees or to end the injustice and humiliation which over 1.5 million Palestinians are suffering under occupation? This cannot be achieved through UN resolutions. It can be achieved only through the barrel of the rifle, through force and right and through the Arab willpower which must rally around this aim. It is then that the UN resolutions will be respected and we will force the United Nations to respect its resolutions. The Israelis know that all the UN resolutions will restore nothing unless we posses the force and the willpower to implement these resolutions.

W. BANK STUDENTS DENOUNCE ISRAELI REPRESSION, SUPPORT PLO

LD271349 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 13 May 80 p 18

[AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM correspondent report: "Students Movement in West Bank Denounces Raids on Universities and Rejects Autonomy Conspiracy"]

[Excerpts] Amman--AR-RA'Y Al-AMM has obtained a number of statements issued by the students' movement in the West Bank exposing the Zionist arbitrary measures to which the occupation authorities resort to in the West Bank towns and villages.

The following is text of the statement issued by the students' movement in the West Bank:

Masses of our struggling people! With the approach of the date of implementing the autonomy conspiracy, the Zionist repressive authorities are desperately attempting to subjugate us to the plan which U.S. imperialism has drawn up in collaboration with its Zionist and Arab reaction agents in the Middle East.

The repressive authorities, realizing the student movement's influence in the arena of the Palestinian struggle, have stepped up their vicious onslaught against student groupings in the various occupied areas. The following chronological list of events shows the extent of oppression which the Zionist repressive authorities exercise against us:

1. In mid-March the military administration authorities issued an order closing down the science college in Abdu Dis with the aim of preventing the existence of an Arab student grouping in Jerusalem and as part of Judaizing the holy city.

2. Following the closure of the science college various sectors of our people protested against the arabitrary closure order. As a result, the military administration authorities restricted the activities of mayors and various trade unions as a means of limiting the effectiveness of protests.

3. Elements of the students movement staged a sit-in in their respective schools as a protest against the closure of the science college. The occupation authorities summoned several students of An-Najah College [in Nabulus] for investigation and some of them are still detained.

4. The student's movement called for a sit-in to be held on Wednesday, 9 April in the science college in protest against the closure order. The occupation authorities prevented mayors and the students of Bir Zayt College and other educational institutions from reaching the sit-in location. Meanwhile, the authorities raided the college campus and seized the identity cards of many students in order to scrutinize them. Some 22 students of Bethlehem University are still without their identity cards.

5. On Wednesday, 9 April an occupation army force of about 300 soldiers raided Unrwa's Teachers College in Ramallah, smashed the college facilities and attacked students in dormitories using tear gas, batons and knives as a result of which 24 students were wounded, 4 of whom received serious wounds. The force arrested 42 other students. Because of the tear gas, some students were forced to jump from the second floor and suffered injuries and bruises as a result.

6. On the same day soldiers of the occupation forces stormed the Women Teachers College in Ramallah and dispersed a sit-in by force.

7. On Thursday, 10 April 200 soldiers of the occupied forces surrounded Bir Zayt University and arrested 6 students and seized the identity cards of a large number of students. The force also raided some of the residential blocks and the university's research center in search of some students.

8. At 0100 hours on Saturday, 12 April an army force raided the residences of many Bir Zayt University students. Some 30 students were beaten severely and 3 were arrested, including two members of the university students council.

9. On Saturday, 12 April the military administration informed Bir Zayt University administration of the names of students wanted by the military administration. Most of these were members of the students council. On the same day the occupation authorities closed down Ittihad as-Safa secondary school in Ramallah District indefinitely.

10. On Monday, 14 April the military administration summoned Dr Gabi Baramki [principal of Bir Zayt University] and once again informed him of the list of students wanted by the military administration.

Struggling masses of our people: These repressive measures against our students' movement call for further support and backing for our students' groupings as we declare our rejection of, and refusal to submit to, these Zionist actions. we are confident that such actions will not weaken our determination and resolve to smash the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary plans which aim at crushing our people's will for liberation and the achievement of their aspirations for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on our national soil.

The students' movement in the occupied West Bank affirms the following:

First: The need to rescind the order closing Abu Dis College of Science so that students can continue their higher education.

Second: The need to put an end to military occupation authorities' harassment of our various educational institutions.

Third: The need to release all the detained students and to cancel all measures that have been taken or will be taken against them.

Fourth: We call on all the national institutions in order that they may be able to discharge their sacred educational mission.

Fifth: We demand rescinding the amendment to Article 83 of the trade union laws which the military occupation authorities issued recently.

Sixth: We stress our rejection of the disreputable Camp David plan to impose autonomy on our people.

Seventh: We emphasize that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of our Palestinian Arab people.

Long live the students' movement in the occupied territories! Long live the unified students struggle! Let all the ranks close for the sake of an effective national unity!

PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING TO FOLLOW FATAH CONGRESS

LD281049 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 May 80 p 1

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT and agency dispatches: "Palestinian National Council To Be Convened To Endorse National Unity Formula"]

[Excerpt] Damascus--It was learned yesterday that the Palestinian National Council will be called for a meeting at the end of the fourth congress of Fatah movement currently being held in Damascus.

Congress sources have told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the council will study the final formula for Palestinian national unity approved by Fatah movement and will prepare for convening the Palestine National Council [PNC] during the second half of June.

VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK RETURNS FROM U.S., EUROPE TRIP

NC281903 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak returned to Cairo from London this evening after a tour which took him to the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Kingdom. He was received at Cairo International Airport by Deputy Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, Deputy Prime Minister Fikri Makram 'Ubayd, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il.

On arrival, Vice President Mubarak said he would go immediately to the residence of President Anwar as-Sadat to submit a report to him on the outcome of his talks.

Airport Press Conference

NC282224 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2138 GMT 28 May 80

[Press conference by Vice President Husni Mubarak on his arrival at Cairo airport on 28 May]

[Text] Cairo, 28 May--Question: Mr Vice President, can you brief us on the outcome of this extensive tour that Your Excellency made?
Answer: If I say anything, it will be repetitive because his excellency the president has said everything about the tour in the interviews that have been published in the newspapers. As for the autonomy talks, we spoke with all the states and leaders in the United States and England. We have no objection to resuming the talks.

Question: How was Egypt's position viewed in the countries you visited?
Answer: I believe they all support Egypt's point of view.

Question: What will be the next steps now that you have assessed the European and U.S. positions?
Answer: I know that a new resolution right now from the European Community would not be appreciated by the United States. However, on 20 June they should declare their position on Jerusalem, the settlements and the Palestinians' right to establish their state and determine their future.

Question: From your talks, do you believe that the United States will embark on a new initiative to restart the talks?
Answer: Perhaps. This is what I understood from them there.

Question: President as-Sadat has specifically asked President Carter to put forward a solution. Did you find this solution in Washington?
Answer: Do you mean a solution regarding the talks?

Question: Yes.
Answer: I discussed this with President Carter. He said he would discuss what could be done with his aides, but he wants the talks to resume. I told him: We are ready to resume the talks without preconditions.

Question: This was several days ago. Did you hear from him during your European tour?
Answer: I heard that he was making an effort with the Israelis just to restart the talks.

Question: What is your assessment of Menahem Begin's future in the next few days. Are you confident that his government will survive?
Answer: No comment.

Question: You said there was no European initiative. What do you mean by this? Did you ask them about this?
Answer: I did not tell the Europeans to take or discuss any resolution at the Security Council. We do not welcome a resolution at present.

Question: Will Your Excellency submit a report to President as-Sadat tonight?
Answer: Yes, and I will go to him immediately.

In answer to another question on the European states' attitude, Husni Mubarak said: We do not ask the Europeans to adopt any resolution but to define their position on the problems of Jerusalem, the settlements and the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

Question: But are you in favor of their taking this step?
Answer: I believe so.

Received by As-Sadat

NC282112 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2038 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 28 May--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat received Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak tonight.

ISRAELI AMBASSADOR RETURNS TO CAIRO FROM TALKS IN TEL AVIV

NC281512 Cairo MENA in English 1443 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Cairo, May 28, (MENA)--Israel's ambassador to Egypt Eliyahu ben Elisar arrived here at noon from Tel Aviv following a two-day visit to Israel during which he held consultations with his government.

NEW ARMED FORCES COMMANDER IN CHIEF APPOINTED

NC281139 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 28 May--A republican decree has been issued appointing Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi Sayyid Ahmad commander in chief of the armed forces affective 14 May 1980.

DEPUTY PREMIER SPEAKS ON BEHALF OF AS-SADAT

NC291044 [Editorial Report] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 0920 GMT on 29 May carries live reportage on the ceremony marking the centennial of Cairo University's law faculty. After a welcoming speech by Cairo University President Dr Ibrahim Badran, the master of ceremonies awards medals to various jurists.

At 1016 GMT, Deputy Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din makes a speech on behalf of President as-Sadat, whose speech to the jurists had been announced in an item carried on page D 6 of the 21 May issue of this DAILY REPORT.

During his 14-minute speech, the deputy prime minister praises the law faculty, saying that thanks to it, Egypt has taken the lead in judiciary affairs in the area. He says that Egypt was the first country in the area to promulgate a consitution, which is quoted and copied. He adds that the law faculty's efforts were crowned with the 1971 constitution and the recent amendments to entrench democratic principles.

Concluding his speech, Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din says: "Dear brotners, the president would have hoped to be with you at this meeting had it not been for unforeseen circumstances. He hopes to meet with you on another occasion."

London REUTER in English at 1135 GMT on 29 May says that President as-Sadat "failed to appear for a scheduled major speech today because he was slightly unwell, informed sources said.

"'The president is tired, he is slightly indisposed,' the sources said. But they said he would attend prayers tomorrow and that the ceremony would be televised and broadcast live."

BULGARIA'S ZHIVKOV ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD ON OFFICIAL VISIT

Airport Statement

JN281514 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1505 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 28 May--Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council of Bulgaria, arrived in Baghdad this afternoon on an official visit of several days to Iraq. The Bulgarian leader was accorded an official reception at Baghdad International Airport in which President Saddam Husayn took part. The Bulgarian leader expressed his pleasure and satisfaction at visiting Iraq and said: We are visiting Iraq with a sincere desire to hold talks and meetings with President Saddam Husayn on the promotion of relations between our two friendly countries.

He affirmed that the talks he will hold with President Saddam Husayn will contribute to developing these relations and to expanding their scope. He added that his talks here will deal with the various current international issues, bilateral relations and issues of common interest.

The Bulgarian leader is accompanied by a delegation comprising Foreign Affairs Minister Petur Mladenov, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers Todor Bozhinov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party Milko Balev, Minister of Foreign Trade Khristo Khristov and a number of senior party and state officials.

Talks Begin 29 May

JN291057 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May--Official talks between President Saddam Husayn and Chairman of the State Council of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov began at the presidential palace this morning. At the outset of the talks, the two leaders exchanged speeches. President Saddam Husayn stressed the importance of the talks in developing bilateral relations of friendship in various fields, in serving the interests of the two friendly peoples and in strengthening the two countries' construction and development processes.

President Saddam Husayn pointed out that the relations of cooperation between Iraq and Bulgaria have been developing since the eruption of the 17 July 1968 revolution. He expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Bulgarian officials for their concern and their activities in elevating the level of relations between the two countries.

Chairman Zhivkov expressed admiration and appreciation of President Saddam Husayn and of his great role in consolidating and promoting bilateral relations of cooperation. He described these relations as being the best that Bulgaria has with any of the Arab countries. He added: We highly appreciate these relations and wish to strengthen them.

The two sides exchanged views on the most important events and world developments. They also discussed bilateral relations of cooperation and ways of strengthening them in the service of the two friendly countries.

KENYAN PRESIDENT HOLDS TALKS IN BAGHDAD, DEPARTS

Closed Meeting With Husayn

JN260915 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0810 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 26 May--President Saddam Husayn and Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi held a closed meeting here today. This morning, the Kenyan president laid a wreath on the tomb of the unknown soldier.

INA has learned that Presidents Saddam Husayn and Daniel Arap Moi discussed the current international situation and the effective role of nonalignment and ways to strengthen cooperation among its members. The Iraqi and Kenyan presidents also discussed bilateral relations and ways to promote them.

Talks Begin 26 May

JN261228 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 26 May--Official talks between Iraq and Kenya began this morning at the national assembly building. The Iraqi side was headed by RCC member and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, while the Kenyan side was headed by Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Robert Ouka.

During the discussions, a review was held on economic and technical cooperation and ways to develop them in the service of the two countries' common objectives within the framework of nonalignment. At the beginning of the talks, Taha Yasin Ramadan affirmed Iraq's support for developing and nonaligned countries to enable them to play a positive role in international politics and to confront colonialist dangers.

The RCC member reviewed Iraq's policy under the leadership of the Ba'th Party and its principled stands, which are independent from international conflicts. He also reviewed Iraq's policy to develop the Arab nation's relations and economic independence, as asserted in the national declaration announced by President Saddam Husayn.

Dr Robert Ouka praised the progress and development in Iraq on the various levels. He expressed hope that relations between Kenya and Iraq will develop to serve the two peoples and realize their common objectives concerning development and progress.

The Iraqi side included Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hamid 'Alwan, Minister of Planning Taha Ibrahim 'Abdallah, Minister of Public Works and Housing Muhammad Fadil and a number of officials and economic advisers.

The Kenyan side included Minister of State in the President's Office G.G. Kariuki, Minister of State in the President's Office K.N.K. Siwott, Minister of Economic Planning Zacharia Onyonka, Minister of Energy Munya Waiyaki, Assistant Minister of Social Services and Housing (S.K. Mito) and a number of economic and agricultural officials.

Departure 27 May

JN270808 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 May--Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi and the delegation accompanying him left Baghdad for home today following a 3-day visit to Iraq. He was seen off at Baghdad international airport by President Saddam Husayn, RCC members, ministers and several senior officials.

The Kenyan president said that his visit to Iraq was successful and fruitful. He added that the meeting with President Saddam Husayn was a good opportunity to discuss all issues of common interest to the two friendly countries. During the visit we discussed the international situation, the role of the nonaligned movement and bilateral relations and ways to promote them in all fields.

MAURITANIAN MINISTER IN BAGHDAD ON VISIT

Meets With Culture Minister

JN271832 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 May 80

[Excerpts] Culture and Information Minister Latif Nasif Jasim ad-Dulaymi met this evening with Ahmedou Ould Sidi Henena, Mauritanian minister of culture, information, posta and telecommunications, and the delegation accompanying him. During the meeting, the culture and information minister welcomed the fraternal delegation, expressing his happiness over this visit, which will further contribute to promoting bilateral relations.

The culture and information minister affirmed Iraq's readiness to offer all its expertise and experiences in the cultural, information, educational and social fields to the fraternal Arab states, thus contributing to developing their potentials in the various fields.

During the meeting, a discussion was concluded on the facets of bilateral cooperation in the information and culture fields and several [word indistinct], including serving our pan-Arab issues.

Meets With Education Minister

JN271833 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 May 80

[Excerpt] Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research Jasim Muhammad al-Khalaf received at noon today Ahmedou Ould Sidi Henena, Mauritanian minister of culture, information, posts and telecommunications, and the delegation accompanying him. During the meeting, a discussion was concluded on ways of bolstering cultural and educational cooperation between the two fraternal states.

CONGOLESE FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN290823 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0815 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May--Col (Elinka Emanuel), chairman of the Congolese societies for friendship with peoples, arrived here today on a visit of several days to Iraq. While in Iraq, Colonel (Emanuel) will hold talks with 'Abd al-Fattah Amin, chairman of the Iraqi friendship societies, aimed at consolidating the two peoples' relations of friendship.

PHILIPPINES ENERGY MINISTER HOLDS TALKS IN BAGHDAD

Meeting With Al-Karim

JN251143 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 25 May--RCC member and Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim today met with Philippines Energy Minister Geronimo Velasco. The discussion at the meeting dealt with oil relations between the two countries and ways to promote bilateral cooperation in the field of oil industry. Following his arrival here yesterday, Velasco said that he is carrying a written message from Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos to President Saddam Husayn dealing with the development of bilateral relations.

Meeting With Trade Minister

JN251652 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] RCC member and Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali received Philippines Energy Minister Geronimo Velasco in Baghdad this afternoon. During the meeting, the two ministers discussed economic and trade bilateral relations and means of developing them in the interests of their two peoples.

President Marcos' Message to Husayn

JN281223 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1155 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 28 May--President Saddam Husayn has received a written message from Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos dealing with relations between the two friendly countries. The message was conveyed by Philippines Energy Minister Geronimo Velasco when he was received by his excellency the president here today. The Philippines minister also conveyed greetings to the president from Philippines President Marcos in which Marcos expressed thanks and appreciation for Iraq's support for the Philippines.

Departure 28 May

JN281505 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1410 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 28 May--Philippines Energy Minister Geronimo Velasco left Baghdad for home today at the end of a 5-day visit. Velasco described his visit as fruitful and successful. He said that he had conveyed a written message to President Saddam Husayn from Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos on relations between Iraq and Philippines. He also discussed with a number of Iraqi officials the possibility of expanding commercial and industrial exchange between the two countries, as well as the contribution of Philippine firms in implementing development projects in Iraq.

DANISH ENERGY MINISTER IN BAGHDAD ON VISIT

Meets With Agriculture Minister

JN271834 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 May 80

[Excerpt] Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Minister 'Amir Mahdi received today Danish Energy Minister Poul Nielsson and the delegation accompanying him. During the meeting, a review was concluded of ways to bolster bilateral cooperation in the agricultural fields in the service of the two peoples. Also reviewed was the contribution of Danish companies to implementing several projects for dairy products in Iraq.

Meets With Al-Karim

JN271206 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 May--RCC member and Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim met here today with Danish Energy Minister Poul Nielsson, who arrived in Baghdad yesterday. During the meeting, the Iraqi minister briefed the Danish minister on Iraqi oil policy in the fields of production, pricing and assisting developing countries. He also briefed him on the Iraqi stand on the International Energy Commission's programs and the policies of the monopolist oil companies which try to create chaos in the world oil market, name the price which provides them with great profit, harm the oil-producing and exporting states and expose world economy to instability. During the meeting the two sides also discussed bilateral economic and oil relations and means of developing them in service of their joint interests.

Concludes Visit 29 May

JN291001 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May--Danish Energy Minister Poul Nielsson left Baghdad today at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq. In a predeparture statement, the Danish minister said that his talks with Iraqi officials dealt with issues pertaining to Iraqi oil exports to Denmark and to the international energy situation. He added that the two sides agreed to develop bilateral technical cooperation in the field of energy, within the joint Iraqi-Danish committee's work.

KING HUSAYN LEAVES FOR LONDON ON 'PRIVATE' VISIT

JN281211 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 May 80

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur left Amman for London this morning on a private visit of several days to the United Kingdom.

UK PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES ON 1-WEEK VISIT

JN241557 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 24 May 80 p 20

[Text] Amman--A parliamentary delegation from the British House of Commons arrived in Amman yesterday evening on a week-long visit to Jordan. During the visit the delegation members will meet with senior statesmen and some officials. Also during the visit the delegation will visit the Palestinian refugees' camps and some tourist and historical sites.

The delegation was received by Senate members Ahmad al-Khalil and Fu'ad Qaqish, the Senate secretary general and the British ambassador in Amman.

Meets Senate President

JN241606 Amman JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] Amman, 24 May--Senate President Bahjat at-Talhuni received the British parliamentary delegation today and reviewed with it relations between Jordan and the United Kingdom and the Middle East issue.

At-Talhuni stressed the necessity that Britain and the other West European states must play a large role to solve the world issues, headed by the Palestine issue and the Middle East crisis, and to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. He also explained the activities carried out by the Jordanian and Arab parliamentary delegations at the various meeting of the International Parliamentary Union and the European council. He also briefed the delegation on the activities carried out to explain the Palestinian issue to the Parliamentary delegations from various parts of the world which have visited Jordan.

At-Talhuni pointed out the just resolutions issued on various occasions urging the Israeli occupation authorities to stop their illegal actions, which conflict with the resolutions of the United Nations, the UN Security Council and the International Parliamentary Union, actions such as the establishment of colonies and settlements in the occupied territories and the change of the historical, geographical and ancient landmarks of Jerusalem and the occupied Arab territories.

At-Talhuni submitted to the delegation the text of the document approved by the European Council in April. This document contains 19 articles in favor of the Middle East crisis and the Palestine issue. It also included paragraphs on Arab Jerusalem and southern Lebanon.

The parliamentary delegation affirmed that Britain is working with the European states for the adoption of an effective and just stand and that it support the need for a quick and comprehensive solution through Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967, including Arab Jerusalem and through giving the Palestinian people the right to repatriation and self-determination.

Meets King Husayn

JN241914 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received the UK parliamentary delegation at the Royal Court this evening. His majesty explained to the delegation the aspects of the Middle East problem, the basic principles of the Jordanian stand on the Palestinian issue and the Arab rights issue. He stressed that Jordan and the Arab states want peace, but a comprehensive, just and lasting peace which gives the occupied Arab lands back to their lawful owners, guarantees the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and leads to the return of Arab Jerusalem, the city of peace, to be the symbol for peace.

His majesty said that there will be no peace without the return of Jerusalem. His majesty pointed to the challenge made by Israel by occupying the Arab land, by changing its character by establishing settlements and deporting Arab citizens from their lands and by ignoring UN resolutions.

His majesty spoke about the joint principles and interests which link European and Arab states. His majesty welcomed the role which Europe is expected to carry out in its participation to achieve a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. He concluded by praising the ties of friendship between the Jordanian and the British peoples.

The meeting was attended by the president of the senate, the chief of the Royal Court, the court minister and the British ambassador in Amman.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan received the British parliamentary delegation earlier today. The meeting was attended by the senate president and the British ambassador in Amman.

Meets Prime Minister

JN282002 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Prime Minister His Excellency ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf received at his office today the UK parliamentary delegation. During the meeting a discussion was concluded on bilateral relations, the situation in the Middle East and international issues.

European Peace Initiative

JN290736 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 29 May 80 p 3

[Excerpts] Amman, May 28--A full-scale debate in the British Parliament could be the next step in the long-awaited European initiative on the Middle East question, according to members of a British parliamentary delegation which is just ending a six-day visit to Jordan.

"We are not a government delegation, but we see ourselves as opinion formers, and when we get back we shall be talking to our colleagues in Britain, and in other European parliaments, with the intention of doing something about the Middle East," Conservative MP Robert Adley, the spokesman for the group, told the JORDAN TIMES tonight.

The British MP's, who arrived in Amman on Friday and leave tomorrow, are members of the Anglo-Jordanian parliamentary group, one of many such groupings set up within the House of Commons which take a special interest in fostering and strengthening relations with individual countries. In the course of their stay here, during which they were guests of the Upper House of the Jordianian Parliament, the MP's held talks with His Majesty King Husayn, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Sharaf and other officials.

Mr Adley said he felt the failure of the American-sponsored Camp David process "is going to bring further pressure to bear on events in the Middle East. There is building up in Britain an increasingly strong feeling of exasperation with American policy in the Middle East." He added: "We in Europe are not prepared to run along after the American coattails indefinitely."

Mr Adley said the consensus of his group, discussed with all the Jordanian leaders they met, was that the European initiative should take the form of an updating of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, embodying recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination as a prerequisite.

But he and his colleague Mr Nelson both said they felt Europe's best prospect for making its influence felt would be by prevailing on the United States. They indicated that this is what the Jordanian leaders felt could be Europe's greatest contribution to finding a way out of the Middle East impasse. The MP's felt a parliamentary debate would be the most immediate way of airing the issue publicly, combined with contacts with Britain's partners in both the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

Asked if any European initiative didn't face the prospect of a rebuff from the United States, including a veto of any new Security Council resolution updating 242, Mr Adley said: "With the combined wisdom of nine stable European democracies, we are not about to go blundering into something without considering the consequences. But above all, we've got to tell the Americans clearly that we are not prepared to go on doing nothing."

TUNISIAN INFORMATION MINISTER ARRIVES IN AMMAN

JN291225 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] Tunisian Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Fouad Mbazaa arrived in Amman today on a 3-day visit to Jordan, at the invitation of the minister of culture and youth. In a statement the JNA correspondent at Amman airport, Mbazaa expressed his pleasure at visiting Jordan, adding that he will convey the greetings of President Habib Bourguiba and those of the Tunisian Government and people to His Majesty King Husayn and to the Jordanian Government and people.

He noted that his visit to Jordan is aimed at consolidating cultural cooperation, which constitutes the basis for all joint action. He said that he will hold talks with Minister of Culture and Youth Tahir Hikmat on cultural cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

While in Jordan, the Tunisian minister will inaugurate the Tunisian cultural week in Amman. He said this represents a gift from the Tunisian people to their brothers in Jordan. Minister of Information Dr Sa'id at-Tal received the Tunisian information and cultural affairs in his office today.

FOREIGN MINISTER BUTRUS' VISIT TO GREECE POSTPONED

NC281755 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 May 80

[28 May communique issued by Foreign and Expatriates Ministry]

[Text] As a result of contacts between the Lebanese and Greek Governments in the past 24 hours, it has been agreed to postpone the visit of Foreign Minister F'ad Butrus to Greece until a date to be fixed later.

CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT REACHED IN SOUTHERN BEIRUT

NC281459 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 28 May 80

[Excerpts] A cease-fire agreement has been reached between Amal and pro-Iraqi Palestinian and Ba'thist organizations. It has also been decided to deploy Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] units to the areas of clashes in Burj al-Barajinah, Bi'r al-'Abo and Hurayk quarter as a result of contacts held this morning with the Republican Palace and with various competent parties involved in the clashes.

Arab Liberation front sources have stressed that Amal gunmen have occupied one of its offices in Burj al-Barajinah and the regional headquarters of the Lebanese nationalist movement. A number of cars were incinerated during the shelling of Burj al-Barajinah camp.

ADF Statement

NC281737 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 May 80

[28 May Communique issued by the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] Command]

[Text] On 27 May the dispute between Amal on the one hand and the Lebanese Communist Party and the Arab front--the Iraqi Ba'th Party--on the other spread to Burj al-Barajinah and its immediate suburbs--Ar-Ruways, Al-Murayjah, and Jami' al-'Arab. The dispute developed into an armed clash at 2215 yesterday during which various types of weapons, including RPG rockets, were used. There were several casualties on both sides as a result of this clash, which ceased at 0100 today following intensive contacts with the parties concerned.

However, the situation again exploded in the same area among armed members of the same parties and began to worsen. The ADF intervened at 1330 today and began taking up positions from Bi'r al-'Abd toward Burj al-Barajinah. The ADF asked the organizations to withdraw their armed men as soon as possible and evacuate the offices that were being occupied by each side.

The ADF command detected a noticeable response from all sides, and the clashes, indeed, ceased at 1430 today.

However, the situation continues to be disturbed by some pockets of sniper fire, which the ADF will deal with in the next few hours.

VOL: Agreement Broken

NC281609 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 28 May 80

[Excerpts] The cease-fire agreement between Amal, the Palestinians and Ba'thists did not last long. A short while ago, the sounds of explosions and of machinegun fire were heard in the Bi'r al-'Abd and Hurayk quarter.

Reports indicate that three artillery shells have fallen on Sahra' ash-Shuwayfat and that roads have become dangerous because of sniper fire.

Six bodies have been found in the Iraqi Ba'th Party office in Burj al-Barajinah, three of which belong to the Arab liberation front and the other three to the Ba'th Party. Amal was in control of the office earlier.

In Al-Biqa', the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine has established a training camp in the township of An-Nabi Sbat. The camp is supervised by a Palestinian commander nicknamed (Firas).

A state of cautious calm has prevailed in the capital's axes, and there have been sporadic bursts of sniper fire from armed positions in the western area.

LEBANON REPORTS TO ARAB LEAGUE ON STATE OF ARMED FORCES

NC271424 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1232 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Beirut, 27 May--The Lebanese newspaper AN-NAHAR today reports that the Lebanese Government sent a report to the Arab League in Tunis outlining the stages of the rebuilding of the army and the internal security forces. Lebanon usually sends such a report whenever it asks for an extension of the mandate of the Arab Deterrent Forces so that the Arab League can adopt a resolution to this effect.

The report includes a detailed explanation of the army rebuilding program, its numerical strength and the present force which enables Lebanon to assume security responsibilites.

The report indicates that the army now numbers 23,000 men and that 15 battalions can be assigned to security duties in addition to the internal security forces.

The paper says that the Lebanese Government will request a 6-month extension of the mandate of the Arab Deterrent Forces and will leave it up to the League Council to consider this request.

STEADFASTNESS FRONT'S DEFENSE MINISTERS BEGIN MEETINGS

JN281700 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Damascus--The conference of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front's defense ministers was opened in Damascus at 1200 today. Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the army and armed forces and defense minister, delivered a speech at the beginning of the meeting. He also conveyed the greetings of the struggler President Hafiz as-Asad to the conferees. He then spoke about the importance of this conference, particularly during the current circumstances through which our Arab nation is passing. General Talas underlined the need for uniting the efforts and mobilizing our Arab people's potentials to cope with the design aimed against the Arab existance and civilization.

The conferees then started to discuss the issues on their agenda. Attending the conference are delegationg representing Algeria, Libya and the PDRY and the PLO delegation under Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, in addition to the Syrian Arab Republic's delegation.

SYRIAN-SOVIET STATEMENT ISSUED ON DELEGATION'S VISIT

JN290949 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] A joint statement has been issued in Damascus and Moscow at the end of the visit that was paid to Moscow by a delegation of the National Council of Peace partisans movement in Syria.

The statement attaches great importance to the role played by the Soviet-Syrian leaders' meetings in cementing bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation.

In their statement, Syria and the Soviet Union stressed the great importance of consolidating militant solidarity against the capitulatory policy in the Middle East in order to realize just and all-round peace in the area.

PDRY PRESIDENT LEAVES FOR MOSCOW 27 MAY

JN271203 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad led those seeing off PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and the delegation accompanying him at Damascus international airport. The PDRY president said in a statement that his visit to Syria was successful. He added: Our viewpoints were identical on all the central Arab issues, particularly the issue of our Arab people's steadfastness in the face of the Zionist enemy and the Zionist-imperialist-reactionary plots in the region.

The PDRY president affirmed that Syria and the PDRY stand in one common trench and are linked by the principles of joint struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction and for our fateful national and pan-Arab issues.

President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad sent a regards cable to President Hafiz al-Asad from the plane. He expressed sentiments of appreciation and thanks for the hospitality accorded him during his visit to Syria. The PDRY president left for Moscow on an official visit to the Soviet Union.

AL-ASAD, AL-KASM RECEIVE TUNISIAN INFORMATION MINISTER

JN282004 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] At 1400 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Tunisian Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Fouad Mbazaa. The meeting was attended by Dr Najah al-'Attar, minister of culture and national guidance, and Farid Soudani, Tunisian ambassador in Damascus.

Mbazaa conveyed to the president the greetings of His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba. The discussion during this meeting dealt with the Tunisian cultural week taking place in Damascus and the strengthening of relations between Syria and Tunisia in the cultural and other fields. President Hafiz al-Asad asked the Tunisian information and cultural affairs minister to convey his greetings to President Bourguiba.

Earlier at 1230 today, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'jf al-Kasm received Mbazaa on the occasion of his current visit to Syria. The meeting was attended by Dr Najah al-'Attar, minister of culture and national guidance, and Farid Soudani, Tunisian ambassador in Damascus. The discussion during this meeting dealt with matters related to Syrian-Tunisian cooperation in the cultural and information fields and the means of strengthening this cooperation. The prime minister was briefed on the results achieved in this respect through the talks which the guest minister is holding with officials in Syria and on various matters relating to the development of bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries.

SALVADORAN OPPOSITION DELEGATION ARRIVES 27 MAY

JN280615 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] A delegation of the Revolutionary Democratic Movement in El Salvador [name as heard] arrived in Damascus tonight on a visit of several days to Syria at the invitation of the Ba'th Party National Command. The delegation is comprised of (Facondo Artado) and (Oscar Fernandes).

The guest delegation will hold political talks with several comrade officials in the party and the state to brief them on the Salvadoran people's struggle, under the leadership of the Revolutionary Democratic Movement in its various factions, against imperialism.

The delegation will also acquaint itself with the most important economic achievements brought about in Syria. It will visit historical sites and the liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah.

Meets Ba'th Official

JN290622 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] Last night Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, Ba'th Party National Command member in charge of the foreign relations office, received the Salvadoran Revolutionary Democratic Movement [name as heard] delegation that is visiting Syria at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command.

The guest delegation made a thorough review of the Salvadoran people's struggle, under the leadership of the Revolutionary Democratic Movement through its various factions, to wipe out the reactionary military regime, which is supported by U.S. imperialism and Zionism and which is endeavoring to link El Salvador to the U.S. imperialist wagon.

The guest delegation expressed the Salvadoran people's support for the just Arab struggle against the Camp David plots and for the Arab efforts to regain all of the occupied Arab territories and to guarantee the firm national rights of the Palestinian people. In a speech in reply, Dr Sayyagh praised the Salvadoran people's just struggle, under the leadership of their national and progressive forces, for their freedom and for progress. Dr Sayyagh expressed the Ba'th Party's support for the Salvadoran people's struggle to rid themselves of the reactionary military regime's hegemony, as well as that of their imperialist masters.

Dr Sayyagh explained the political situation in the Arab homeland and the Arab people's struggle against imperialism, Zionism reaction and their allies. He also briefed the delegation on the Ba'th Party's struggle and the objectives of the socialist revolution in Syria.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM RECEIVES LEBANESE DEPUTY

JN281944 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Damascus--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister met this evening with Lebanese Deputy Fu'ad Lahhud. Talks during the meeting centered on the current developments in the Arab area, the situation in Lebanon and issues of the common interest.

KHADDAM RECEIVES PLO-LEBANESE DELEGATION

JN271650 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Damascus--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received at 1200 today a delegation representing the PLO and the Lebanese nationalist movement. The Syrian Arab News Agency correspondent says that the PLO delegation consisted of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, head of the PLO department Faruq Qaddumi, Salah Khalaf, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Muhammad Ratib Ghunaym and Farhan Abu al-Haja'. The delegation of the Lebanese nationalist movement consisted of George Hawi, Muhsin Ibrahim, Tawfiq Sultan and Samir Sabbagh. The discussion during the meeting dealt with the situation in the Arab region and the situation in Lebanon in particular.

INFORMATION MINISTER COMMENTS ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

NC271503 Beirut AL-BAYRAQ in Arabic 26 May 80 pp 1,7

[Text of an interview conducted by Nadim al-Hashim with Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad in Damascus--no date given]

[Excerpts] Question: How far has the dialogue between Syria and the Phalangists progressed, and what are its results?

Answer: The dialogue is still at the beginning. On our part we look to the future with an open mind. We only look upon the past to the extent that it helps us to proceed toward the future with more confidence and with the ability to avoid past obstacles and mistakes. We do not want anything from any party in the Lebanese arena other than its incontestable loyalty to the legal Lebanese authority and proof of the severance of all direct and indirect relations with the enemies of Lebanon and of the Arabs: the Israeli invaders.

President Sarkis has submitted a document to the political parties in Lebanon to serve as a common factor on which all the parties would agree to achieve national accord. We in Syria are very much interested in the achievement of national accord in Lebanon. We are also interested in seeing that the bases that President Sarkis mentioned in his message to the Lebanese brothers is accepted by all parties.

Question: The coordination between the Lebanese Army and the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF]; is it progressing positively, and how far has it gone?

Answer: As an information minister, I am not concerned with this coordination. But when the army is accepted by all parties in Lebanon, I do not think there will be any problems between the ADF and the Lebanese Army. On the contrary, there would be maximum fraternal cooperation to serve the sublime national interests of Lebanon.

Question: It has been being reiterated that Syria occasionally hampers the formation of this army [Lebanese] in one way or another.

Answer: This is inaccurate talk.

Question: What is the significance of the Ba'th newspaper attack on the Palestinians?

Answer: The Ba'th newspaper did not attack our Palestinian brothers. Neither it nor any other Syrian newspaper would do such a thing. We and our Palestinian brothers are in one trench and tied to each other by excellent and firm strategic relations. However, the article referred to by some news agencies was not accurately copied from the Ba'th newspaper.

Question: Do you bless the Fatah conference now convened in Syria?

Answer: It has not yet ended, and we hope it will achieve positive results in the interests of the Palestinian national movement.

Question: How do you view the internal situation in Syria?

Answer: I can sum up the answer to this question by saying: Syria was never stronger than it is now.

Question: It has been reiterated that there are signs of a coolness in relations between Syria and former President Franjiyah. What is the truth about this?

Answer: Syria's relations with President Franjiyah are excellent. We are keen on maintaining these relations because we appreciate President Franjiyah's patriotism, sincerity and Arab affiliation, which are incontestable. We admire his qualities of friendship, loyalty and true patriotic affiliation. For all of these reasons, our relations with President Franjiyah have been, are and will remain excellent.

Question: Have your relations with Jordan suffered a setback?

Answer: They are natural relations, and we are doing our best to improve them all the time.

Question: And with Libya?

Answer: Very good. We are both members of the Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation.

Question: With Saudi Arabia?

Answer: Good relations.

Question: With Iraq?

Answer: Natural.

Question: What about war with Israel? Is a war likely, and could it take place without Egypt?

Answer: Israel is a racist and expansionist state occupying our territory. We are in a state of war with it, and we are studying the present explosive situation in the Middle East. We must not rule out the possibility of a military stupidity by Israel. We are preparing for everything and taking all matters into consideration. We are prepared for all eventualities. We will certainly defend our country and ourselves as dictated by the honor of battle and of the Arab nation at any moment. We are prepared for all eventualities.

Question: Would Syria be on the offensive or defensive?

Answer: Military science does not differentiate between defensive and offensive abilities. We are building up our defensive strength to be able to repulse any Israeli military attack and to deal a counterblow. This is why we raised the slogan of strategic balance between us and the Zionist enemy. The allegation that Syria cannot enter into a war now that Egypt has left the battle is wrong. It is true that this reality has added to our burdens, but there is no difficulty that cannot be tackled and overcome.

Question: There are signs of retreat and withdrawal on the part of President as-Sadat. Could this, in your opinion, be the beginning of his return to the Arab fold after having despaired of all attempts?

Answer: President as-Sadat has discarded his Arab skin and betrayed his Arab nation just as he betrayed Egyptian national interests. The Egyptian ruler's past and present acrobatics are nothing more than part of the maneuvers with which he intends to mislead the Arab citizen inside Egypt and to implement another part of the plot--in disdain of the Arab citizen in general and the Egyptian citizen in particular.

Question: Do you expect a European initiative after the failure of Camp David?

Answer: There is no European move completely independent of U.S. policy. We have rejected and will continue to reject any political move by any party that aims at completing the links of Camp David, at improving the form of the Camp David agreements or at extricating them from their dilemma.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI CABLES MESSAGE TO KHOMEYNI

LD282104 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] The leader brother, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, has sent the following telegram to Ayatollah Khomeyni on the occasion of the inauguration of the National Islamic Consultative Assembly:

At this time when people's congresses are being held throughout Libya and the Consultative Assembly in Iran is inaugurated, we can say that at last Muslims have woken up and are about to discharge their new historic mission which will save the world from the domination of materialism and tyrants and lead mankind from darkness to light. This is hearalded by the triumph of the Islamic revolution in Libya and the Islamic revolution in Iran. The two revolutions have no alternative but to enter into eternal political, economic, social and military alliance in order to realize this mission and to create a new community of the masses in which power, wealth and weapons will be in the hands of the people.

COMMENTARY HITS U.S. 'TERROR' POLICY ON IRAN

LD281454 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 May 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] U.S. President Jimmy Carter yesterday held a festival of terror. He stood up to salute and review one of his instruments of terror against peoples, the aircraft which took part in the failed terrorist operation against the Iranian people. This festival of te terror reminds us of the era of barbarism when the barbarians used to stand around their dead victims and lick their instruments of crime, drenched with the blood of the defenseless. America does not stop at committing aggression. Moreoever, it gloats over it and declares that the American administrations is devoted to acts of piracy and international terror. Here is its President saluting the instrument with which he committeed the crime.

When Jimmy Carter declared last February at the House of Representatives in that well-known statement, his message to the union, that he would allocate $15 billion to terrorize the peoples, ordered the invading troops to be made ready and issued special laws to draft hundreds of thousands of Americans to carry out terror campaigns against the people, many people sank down in their chairs with shame and others interpreted it as (?punitive) slogans used by Carter in his election campaign and an attempt to patch up the cloak of American dignity torn by the blows of the revolutions which broke out in Latin America, Asia and Africa, and which caused big cracks in the wall of American domination and sent shock waves through the belt of American interests encircling the world. Yet Carter is celebrating his crimes and does not refrain from declaring that he has become a pirate leading a new type of cowboys who fly aircraft and who use aircraft carriers. Carter flexes his muscles, which he believes are able to terrorize the small peoples struggling for freedom and progress.

The American aggression against Iran and Carter's welcome to the instruments of this aggression make him a mere president of the operations room for terrorist acts, called the White House. All that is left of its whiteness is the whiteness of the order papers which Carter is getting ready to issue so that his gang may rush toward Asia, Africa or Latin America. America has no face other than that (?hated) criminal and terrorist face which bears the signs of crime, piracy and terrorism.

It appears that Carter and his terror gang have forgotten that the will of the people is mightier and greater than (?arsenals) of weapons and that a handgrenade carried by a free revolutionary hand is mightier than the flying fortress of death known as the B-52 with which America covered the sky of Vietnam.

MAURITANIA

LE MONDE ON REASONS FOR FRENCH PULLOUT FROM MAURITANIA

LD271037 Paris LE MONDE in French 23 May 80 p 4

[Paul Balta dispatch: "Withdrawal of French Troops Illustrates Sourness of Relations Between Paris and Nouakchott"]

[Text] Nouakchott--Some 100 French military instructors were due to embark at Nouadhibour this Thursday, 22 May to return to France. They were preceded a few days ago by a few dozen paratroopers who were stationed in the capital and in Nouaraie. Operation Lemantin [French presence in Mauritania] is ending discreetly: The news has not been announced in Mauritania and the French Government has so far refrained from comment.

Circles close to the Mauritanian Government explain that Nouakchott officially asked at the end of April for the withdrawal of the French troops which had been called in to defend the country's territorial integrity because there was not longer any reason for their presence since Mauritania had withdrawn from the Sahara conflict.

In private, however, a series of explanations are given. It is being pointed out in particular that relations between Paris and Nouakchott have soured since last January's overthrow of President Mahmoud Ould Pouly, who was close to business circles, and especially after the removal of Chief of Staff Lt Col Ahmadou Ould Abdallah, who was regarded as a moderate. This sacking was followed in April by the arrest of his cousin, who has the same name, and who was accused of being too pro-French and especially too pro-American. He had lost the foreign affairs portfolio at the beginning of January.

Some leaders also do not hesitate to point out that former President Ould Daddah was authorized "for humanitarian reasons and at Paris' urgent request" to go to France for medical treatment. The French Government, they maintain, made a verbal promise to send him back once he was cured. However, not only has he not been sent back, but the former president has allegedly gone "to Saudi Arabia, where he was received as a head of state, and was receiving a growing number of people (oppositionists understood--LE MONDE note) at his Paris residence." Finally, some leaders claim that in the talks he had during his visit to the Persian Gulf [French president] Giscard d'Estaing expressed reservations about the team in power in Nouakchott which had repercussions on financial aid and loans promised by some oil-producing countries.

"We have various economic and social problems and we should solve them," some officials note, and they add: "We are not saying that France is trying to destabilize the present government, but we felt that it was turning a blind eye to some machinations which could lead to a coup d'etat."

Are these fears real or are they merely a pretext for the recall of the French troops? It is difficult to say. What is certain is that three former ministers--Ould Abdullaye Baro (planning), Abdallah Ould Ismail (fishing) and Mohammed Ould Babeh (defense)--were arrested recently and that security measures have been stepped up with regard to people under house arrest for such as former Foreign Minister Hamdi Ould Mouknass and former President Ould Daddah's brother.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA VIEWS SAHARAN, PALESTINIAN ISSUES

LD271331 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 7 May 80 p 18

[Interview granted to Muhammad Yunis by Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta in Rabat--date not given]

[Excerpts] Rabat--[Question] It was recently reiterated that you were behind the Syrian-Moroccan crisis and, for this reason, Damascus addressed three invitations to you to visit Syria, but you did not respond to any of them. Why?

[Answer] I am not aware that there is a Moroccan-Syrian crisis because I do not yet have any information about the factors of this problem. My special and personal relations with my brothers in Syria, particularly with [Foreign Minister] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, are good and friendly. The relations have always been good and friendly to such a degree that we always deal with all the issues, be they Syrian, Moroccan or Arab, in a frank and friendly manner. The same thing applies to all the meetings held with the Syrian brothers whether at the Arab conferences in Baghdad or Tunis or during the Islamic meetings.

As for fraternal Syria's stand on the Sahara issue, especially after the recent Tripoli conference, the change that occurred was not in Morocco's stand but was, it appeared, in Syria's stand, especially after President Hafiz al-Asad had emphasized [Syria's] declared stand during the 1974 Rabat summit conference.

As for the invitations to visit Syria, I have not received any written invitation but, as the Syrian foreign minister has emphasized to me, I believe that I have an open invitation to visit Damascus at any time and that the same applies to his visiting Morocco.

[Question] Some sources have stated that you have tried to distort the position of the organization [the PLO] in Morocco and, for this reason, you told the king: We would like to know with which Morocco is the organization dealing. Is it with the Morocco which extends from (Bughaz) to Agadir or that which extends from (Bughaz) to Bojador. The king rejected this statement. What is the truth?

[Answer] After the Tripoli conference, we were surprised by the organization's recognition of the so-called "Saharan Republic." This matter does not concern me personally but it concerns all the Moroccans. Therefore, reaction was inevitable. I personally was one of those who said that we must refrain from reacting until we query the organization on the reality of the situation. This happened and explanations were provided by the Palestinian delegation which visited Rabat. I personally believe that the attitude which Abu 'Ammar [PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat] adopted from the first day of the Green March is the normal attitude which the organization adopted toward an Arab land occupied by foreign colonialists. The organization's support for freeing this Arab land from the yoke of the colonialists was clear.

I add by saying that I do not wish to involve the organization or to have the organization involve itself in any dispute between one Arab country and another.

The important thing is that when the official Palestinian delegation provided the explanations, everything was settled as far as I, the Istiqlal [Independence] Party and all the Moroccan people are concerned.

[Question] What is the present situation with regard to the Saharan problem and how do you see it developing in the coming phase?

[Answer] I believe that the Saharan problem reached a basic turning point 6 months ago. For the past 4 years, we Moroccans believed that there was no need to adopt radical measures with regard to the means of defending our country, but the continued acts of aggression against Moroccan soil made it incumbent upon us to adopt a new method of defense.

On the other hand, the real aims of these attacks became clear to us. For this reason, Morocco braced itself to defend the area; hence the recent decisions and measures to introduce the necessary changes to our military strategy, to redeploy the military units after supplying them with the necessary weapons, to prepare the people psychologically to enable them to defend their land, and to confront the new war, which is not a classical war. The results of these measures were apparent during the battles that took place at the beginning of March. The situation will become clearer in the next few weeks or months.

That was from the military standpoint. From the political standpoint, we are prepared to provide all the necessary explanations to the states which adopted stands out of good intentions but also out of ignorance so that they will take appropriate decisions in this respect. We Moroccans are always prepared to do everything to build the Arab Maghreb. We are also prepared to start negotiations with the parties which are interested in building the great Arab Maghreb, particularly Algeria.

[Question] Do you believe that things could develop to the point of direct confrontation between Morocco and Algeria?

[Answer] Everything is possible and anything can happen. We in Morocco have taken all precautions and measures. We hope that we will not reach such a situation. But if war is imposed on us, we are prepared to wage it.

[Question] King Husayn's [as published, presumably meaning King Hassan's] statements at his press conference have drawn widespread reactions, especially his statements on the organization [PLO] and the Rabat resolutions. What are your comments on this?

[Answer] I believe that his majesty the king's statements ought to be explained in their proper perspective as follows:

Morocco is completely committed to the Baghdad and Tunis summit conferences resolutions, the contents of which signify absolute rejection of the Camp David agreements. This is from a passive standpoint. The positive standpoint centers on projecting Arab solidarity. Therefore, we are for every action, within the framework of Arab solidarity, to liberate every inch of the occupied Arab territories and we must carry out this action. We must also pursue every means to achieve this objective. If the land of Palestine is defined within this context, then we are for it. If this land is to be liberated within another context then we are for it also. This is what the king expressed at his recent press conference.

Meanwhile, the recent European move must be crystallized. The Moroccan king's visit to Paris and the Vatican, in implementation of the Jerusalem Committee's resolutions, was tantamount to a step in the direction of Europe. Also, Giscard d'Estaing's statements during his recent tour [of Arab states] showed that Camp David is not suitable for solving the Arab-Israeli problem.

Having committed ourselves to the Baghdad and Tunis summits' resolutions, we must encourage every European step designed to find a just solution to the problem. Therefore, the Vatican's stand is considered an important factor concerning the issue in general and Jerusalem in particular.

[Question] The king also said that the Soviet Union has entered the war against Morocco by arming those who are launching war against Morocco. Will Morocco take any specific measures in this connection, especially when several agreements are concluded between Morocco and the Soviet Union, such as the fishing and phosphate agreements?

[Answer] It is regrettable that the Soviet Union has adopted such a stand against us and is supplying our attackers with sophisticated weapons. We, with our modest capabilities, cannot possibly enter into war with it and we will try by all means to check the Soviet arms supplies. Meanwhile, Morocco will not embark on any step that will harm the existing relations between us and Moscow. The agreements are still valid, and we will not violate them.

ARMED FORCES REPEL ATTACK BY 'MERCENARIES'

LD282042 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Despite the heavy losses inflicted on the mercenaries during their recent attacks on the village of Abatih, yesterday they again made a desperate attempt to capture the village. The enemy waged a concentrated attack from 0530 until 0900 in an attempt to penetrate the defense lines of the Royalist Armed Forces stationed around the village, having been misled by directives received from Tindouf. In the face of the steadfastness of the Royalist Armed Forces, the mercenaries fled, leaving behind them in the battlefield 176 dead, the wreckage of 29 military vehicles and various weapons. Our forces seized 4 jeeps and a quantity of munitions and equipment. Three of our forces were martyred and 15 were wounded.

KING HASSAN DISCUSSES CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

LD261246 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Rabat, May 26, (MAP)--King Hassan II of Morocco delivered Sunday a speech in which he invited the Moroccan people to express their opinion, through a referendum, on the amendment of the articles of the Moroccan constitution related to the prorogation of the mandate of members of Parliament elected by the direct suffrage from 4 to 6 years, and that of the speaker of the House of Representatives from 1 to 3 years.

Exposing the reasons for proposing this amendment, King Hassan II pointed out that the term of the mandate of the Parliament members must remain the same, no matter how they have been elected.

The monarch then evoked the link existing, since last Friday, between the House of Representatives and the Regency Council (the speaker of the house is a member of the Regency Council). Among the reasons for this amendment, King Hassan II evoked the practical reasons which necessitate a Parliament forming a whole and which must renew itself in its globiality, and the moral reasons which call the necessity to reduce the frequency of electoral campaigns. "This amendment enables us to reflect our institution," said the monarch.

King Hassan II asked the people to freely express their opinion, after a serene analysis, made in a moral climate characterised by the ponderation and which takes into account the Moroccan people wishes to exercise democracy in the framework of the constitutional monarchy. He pointed out that the referendum is a means to verify the wheels of the legislative and executive organs.

Dealing with the results of the referendum of May 23, King Hassan II expressed his total satisfaction and thanked God for having confirmed this concordance between the king and his people.

Talking about the monarchy, King Hassan II emphasized that it is a vital factor for our continuity. "We must never have the complex of the nature of our regime," he said, adding that "for 14 centuries, Morocco has always been a kingdom and will remain so, because it responds to current requirements."

"Every Moroccan who expressed his opinion about Article 21 of the constitution, considers that his vote is a commitment, not only for himself, but also for the future generations," King Hassan II added.

"The Moroccan people must be proud for having established, since last Friday the modern standards, in conformity with its authenticity during this day. Every Moroccan will celebrate the symbiosis between the monarchy and the people, put in concrete form last May 23," King Hassan II went on.

To conclude, the monarch proposed that the day of May 23 be a national day, or a familial day, during which the green march generation will celebrate every year its communion with its sovereign.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI-MENGISTU TALKS BEGIN IN KHARTOUM 26 MAY

ID271110 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0400 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Official talks opened yesterday between the high-level delegations of socialist Ethiopia, led by Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, and the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, led by His Excellency President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri. Our reporter at the meeting says that the opening round of talks was held in a friendly and brotherly atmosphere.

At the beginning of the talks, His Excellency President Numayri extended cordial greetings to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam and his high-level delegation. Making a brief opening speech in Amharic, President Numayri expressed great pleasure at being able to welcome the delegation in the Ethiopian national language. His Excellency President Numayri hailed the long-standing cultural and comradely friendly relations between the two peoples and countries. His Excellency President Numayri went on to stress the great importance the people of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan attach to the current visit and said that their hearts and minds were with the high-level brotherly delegation of socialist Ethiopia, led by Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam. In his speech, His Excellency President Numayri noted that the Blue Nile River symbolized the links between Ethiopia and the Sudan. His Excellency President Numayri further disclosed that the Democratic Republic of the Sudan was ready further to strengthen its neighborly relations with Ethiopia and hailed the role socialist Ethiopia was playing in Africa.

In turn, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam expressed socialist Ethiopia's desire to cooperate with its neighbor, Sudan, in all fields and said that a new chapter had opened in the relations between the two countries. Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam added that it was the historical task of the leaders of the two countries to usher in this new chapter in their relations and noted that there were several fields in which the two countries could cooperate.

EGYPT SEEN DEMANDING U S. GUARANTEES ON JERUSALEM, SETTLEMENTS

TA281618 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Egypt demands U.S. guarantees on the Jerusalem and settlements issues as a condition for the resumption of the autonomy talks. This is reported by our correspondent Ehud Ya'ari.

U.S. Ambassador Alfred Atherton and Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali met in Cairo today in the framework of the clarifications held regarding the formulation of the U.S. announcement in preparation for the resumption of the autonomy talks.

INTERIOR MINISTER COMMENTS ON RESUMPTION OF AUTONOMY TALKS

TA281622 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1410 GMT 28 May 80

[Interview with Interior Minister Yosef Burg by Yitzhaq Golan, Shim'on Schiffer and 'Uzi Benziman; live]

[Excerpt] [Schiffer] Mr Burg, I would like to ask you whether the way you conduct the autonomy negotiations will not finally lead to the loss of Eretz Yisra'el and the establishment of a Palestinian state. The impression is that the talks are in such a state of crisis that no way our can be found and other solutions may ultimately have to be examined.

[Burg] Your question contains two contradictory elements. On the one hand you said that the impression from the way the negotiations are conducted is that they will lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state. On the other hand you said that since no progress is being made, other solutions will be looked for. The truth is as follows: Regarding the autonomy negotiations, what I said before is that I was not born an autonomy minister and the autonomy issue is not an integral part of the Interior Ministry but that I do not believe this will be a point at issue between any foreign minister and myself.

As for your question itself: We conducted the negotiations with the intention of preventing the establishment of a Palestinian state. This is our objective and this is in fact the core of the dispute between the Egyptians and ourselves. Concerning the other question--let us not make a sandwich [last word in English] of this--it is certainly possible that if the delay in the talks initiated by President as-Sadat continues, the European countries may be happy to launch an initiative of their own that will make life easier for them--it will help them with the export of their goods and the import of Arab oil.

[Golan] You met with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis this morning. Did you learn from this talk whether the autonomy negotiations may be resumed in one way or another in the near future?
[Burg] A precise question. I learned that the Americans want the talks to continue. I did not, however, understand how the thread that was torn by the Egyptian announcements can be repaired.

[Benziman] Was a concrete proposal submitted to us?
[Burg] We discussed several ideas, but they do not seem concrete to me. Therefore, I think that the talks between Washington and Jerusalem should continue.

REACTION IN CAIRO TO FAHD'S REMARKS REPORTED

TA290713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] Here is a report from Cairo. Saudi Arabian newspapers reaching the Egyptian capital have come out this morning with editorials claiming that the remarks by Crown Prince Fahd were deliberately distorted.

According to the paper A-JAZIRAH, there is a plot by the unholy trio of imperialism-Zionism-communism to slander Saudi Arabia's position on the Middle East conflict and Ehud Ya'ari brings us reaction from Cairo.

[Ya'ari] Prince Fahd's proposals to the Washington POST, which were at first interpreted as a gesture of appeasement and understanding to As-Sadat, may in the end, so it transpires this morning, only add oil to the fire of the argument between the two countries. Observers, including several Egyptian commentators, who tried to find hope in the Saudi amir's remarks, would do better to take another look at the picture. Last night, at about midnight, AL-JUMHURIYAH was already on the streets, filled with scorn for Fahd who had, as it were, panicked and retracted his remarks. The Egyptians have been insulted, as far as can be seen, by what Fahd said yesterday in Fez, Morocco. From what he said it can be understood that Cairo is guilty of inflating and exaggerating the significance of the declaration.

In order to defend themselves, this morning the Egyptian papers publish photos of the glaring headlines in the Kuwaiti newspapers as proof that if there is anybody responsible for the misunderstanding, it is Fahd himself.

Fahd's remarks were not published in Saudi Arabia, neither in the press nor over other communications media, as though nothing had ever happened. This morning AL-AHRAM says, cynically: In another few days we may again hear a declaration by Fahd and there will again be a denial. The paper urges the owner of the Washington POST, who interviewed Fahd, to publish the transcript of the remarks made by the Saudi Crown prince so that there can be no doubt that he was quoted correctly.

As-Sadat was less upset than anyone else here and threw cold water on everything at once and minimized the importance of the changes, if there were any changes at all, in the prince's remarks. What Fahd is proposing, he said, is exactly what Begin would like to hear: Fahd is demanding a commitment to a comprehensive withdrawal; Begin will refuse to give in and matters will remain as they are. As-Sadat, who received a report last night from Vice President Mubarak, who has returned from Washington, is scheduled to make a speech this morning at Cairo University's faculty of law and, according to what has been promised by the papers this morning, he will react to both the Saudi affair and the issue of the continuation of the autonomy talks. Back to you from Cairo.

SAUDI, MOROCCAN REACTION TO BEGIN INVITATION CITED

TA281326 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] In an interview in the Washington POST Prime Minister Menahem Begin invited Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia to come to the Knesset in Jerusalem, to speak and try to convince it of Saudi Arabia's demands for a solution to the Middle East conflict. Freddie Eytan brings us [from Paris] some first reaction by Arab sources and diplomatic circles in both Paris and Rabat, from where a statement by Prince Fahd had been made on a solution to the conflict.

[Eytan] Yes. Arab diplomatic circles close to Prince Fahd have told us that there is no chance that the Saudi crown prince will respond to Prime Minister begin's suggestion. The suggestion is interesting, but not practical or original, a senior official told us. The circles stressed that a visit to Jerusalem by a Saudi leader would advance the peace process if it is clear that the Government of Israel would declare a withdrawal from the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem and recognize a Palestinian entity.

Sources in Rabat reported that Prince Fahd, who is on a private visit to Fez and Rabat this week, has with King Hasan II put forward a new diplomatic program to be implemented in stages, apparently after the U.S. election this coming November. The program, in fact, is intended to indirectly encourage President as-Sadat in his peace efforts and support the Camp David agreements and Security Council Resolution 242 which they regard today as the foundations for any possible settlement.

Diplomatic circles have reported that since the French president's trip to the Middle East, held in March, the leaders of Saudi Arabia, Morocco and the Persian Gulf principalities have reexamined their policy on a solution to the Israeli-Arab conflict. They have decided to cut themselves off from the rejectionist front, especially from Syria, and this also explains why there is no specific demand for a withdrawal from the Golan heights.

King Hasan II also expects President al-Asad's regime to fall very soon. The king of Morocco also leveled severe criticism at the resolution passed at the last Tripoli conference on everything involving the conflict. Because of the increase in Soviet involvement and the extremist emotions in Islam in the wake of the revolution in Iran, several moderate Arab leaders have decided to unite and devote themselves to efforts for peace with the aim of strengthening their positions.

Today it is thought that Saudi Arabia and Morocco will now put pressure on the Palestinian leaders, particularly on Yasir 'Arafat, to recognize an amended Resolution 242 and stop demanding a comprehensive settlement for a solution to their problems, in accordance with the 1974 Rabat conference agreements and agree to direct talks, even with President as-Sadat's mediation.

Fahd Comment From Morocco

TA281327 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Saudi Crown Prince Fahd said his country will not take any initiative to solve the Middle East conflict without the consensus of the Arab world. In an interview with the Moroccan news agency, Fahd said remarks he made to the Washington POST had been misinterpreted and taken to mean that Saudi Arabia was ready to launch a unilateral initiative on the Middle East. The Washington POST had quoted the Saudi Prince as saying Riyadh would do its utmost to achieve Arab cooperation toward a full Middle East settlement if Israel withdrew from all occupied territories.

CONSULTATIONS CONTINUE IN SEARCH FOR NEW DEFENSE MINISTER

TA281355 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] It has been a morning of intensive political contacts in the Knesset concerning the prime minister's proposed ministerial appointments. Begin met earlier today with Interior Minister Yosef Burg of the National Religious Party and also met with Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon and with the ministers representing the Democratic Movement. On what has been going on among the political parties, Leslie Susser reports from the Knesset:

[Susser] It now seems that the prime minister's hope for a speedy solution will not be realized. The National Religious Party met this morning to make a decision that means effectively that the new appointments will not be possible until next week. They have set up a six-man committee to hold further consultations with the prime minister and to report back to the full faction. All the NRP speakers today were against getting into an argument over personalities, but made it clear that they would not be averse to the Defense Ministry issue being solved first and a foreign minister appointed only later.

Party leader Yosef Burg said the whole reshuffle package is too complicated for a quick decision and, as he told the prime minister yesterday: "You want a solution by Thursday, but we will have to live with it for over a year." But no one in the party calls for leaving the government. Even the most extreme spokesman for leaving said that this was the wrong issue. But for the Democrats who are meeting now, it could be the right issue, and there are certain indications that this time they are serious about bringing the government down. But, again, they may well be crying wolf once again. Arik Sharon met with the prime minister this morning, but afterward was not prepared to say what it was all about or whether he had handed the prime minister a letter or resignation.

[Sharon--recorded] When I have something to say, I'll say it only to the prime minister.

[Susser] Meanwhile, Dr Burg has sent two NRP ministers to persuade sharon against resigning over the defense portfolio. Among the Liberals, there is a feeling that the crisis will blow over, although even here there are some dissidents not pleased at the Moda'i appointment and who may even stay away when the new appointments are set up for the Knesset's approval.

Begin Plans for Knesset Approval

TA282033 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 28 May 80

[Excerpt] On Sunday the prime minister wants to bring his proposal about Moda'i's and Shamir's appointments to the Cabinet for approval. Mr Begin hopes that by next Monday he will bring the proposal to the Knesset plenum for approval. If not, he will assume the defense minister's post.

Today the Democrats looked for a way to climb off the high tree they are perched on. At the moment they are waiting for the prime minister's invitation and insist on voting against Yitzhaq Moda'i's candidacy as foreign minister. [begin recording]

[Nisim Mish'al] Mr Minister, do you take back your threat not to accept the appointment?

[Minister Shmu'el Tamir] I will say nothing. There was no threat and therefore it need not be taken back. Whatever was said was said.

[Mish'al] Does this mean that the Democrats will accept the appointments?

[Tamir] You said what you wanted. You heard a very clear reply from me. [end recording]

[Yoram Ronen] Deputy Prime Minister Yadin hurried to the Knesset hall, talked with the prime minister and expected to hear why Begin had not consulted the Democrats before he made his decision. Yadin insists on his position. Likud circles say that the solution may be to enable the Democrats to abstain from voting on Moda'i's appointment.

The NRP today wanted to distinguish between Shamir's and Moda'i's appointments. Finally it was suggested that the ministers and the NRP faction leaders confer with the prime minister and make their decision next week. There is no reason for a crisis, Minister Hammer said. Minister abu-Hatzera added: We do not want anybody to interfere with the appointment of our ministers. Let us not interfere with the appointment of ministers in other parties. Dr Burg, the minister who will have to work with Yitzhaq Moda'i, has not accepted the latter's appointment yet. [begin recording]

[Mish'al] Sir, if I asked for your estimate, what would you say--will these appointments be approved or not?

[Burg] Do you want a 50-50 answer or a 60-40 percent answer?

[Mish'al] How do you see things? Is everything still open?

[Burg] Absolutely. [end recording]

[Ronen] While the NRP faction was convened in its room, Minister Sharon arrived at the prime minister's office in the Knesset. His talk with the prime minister was brief. Ari'el Sharon did not resign. He talked about security problems following the letter he sent to the prime minister last night in which he also expressed concern about the new appointments. [begin recording]

[Sharon] When I have something to say it will be to the prime minister only.

[Mish'al] It was reported yesterday that you discussed defense issues with him. Was this the topic of your conversation today as well?

[Sharon] I can only repeat that when I have something to say I will say this to the prime minister only. [end recording]

[Ronen] When the shadow of Sharon's threat to resign was removed, the prime minister left his office, deciding on a short time-out in the coalitional contracts. Begin understands he cannot conclude the affair this week. The Liberals and Democrats are threatening to carry their demands to the point of crisis. The prime minister is determined to submit the appointments for the government's and Knesset's approval next week. He assumes there will be a Knesset majority for that on Monday. Deputy Prime Minister Ehrlich, who conducts the negotiations with Begin, shares this hope. [begin regording]

[Ehrlich] This has not been heard of. This government is based on seven parties. But if the prime minister cannot introduce changes in his party and its Knesset representation--and the Likud is the prime minister's party--he had better go to the president [and submit his resignation]. I think that the prime minister is right in what he told me--that he will consider going to the president [in such a case].

[Mish'al] In other words, the Liberals make their continued participation in the government conditional on Moda'i's appointment as foreign minister?

[Ehrlich] This is not a question of conditions. The Liberals received the prime minister's confirmation that Moda'i will be foreign minister and this is what should happen. It cannot be otherwise. [end recording]

Hurvitz Supports a Sharon Appointment

TA290841 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 29 May 80

[Report by correspondent Gadi Sukenik]

[Text] Yesterday, in an appearance before Jerusalem students, Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz made it clear that his candidate for the post of defense minister is Arik Sharon.

Yiga'el Hurvitz said that because of the shocks the government is undergoing, the prime minister has the right to appoint ministers without asking anybody. Nobody has consulted with me, the finance minister said, but I do not intend to oppose the prime minister.

[Begin Hurvitz recording] Until now the prime minister has taken the parties' wishes into consideration. If he wants to accept the parties' recommendations, that is his right.

Perhaps he wants to take this opportunity to say: I think that Yitzhaq Shamir and Moda'i are good ministers, I think that Arik Sharon, who has been mentioned, and Misha Arens are excellent ministers and could be defense ministers; I am convinced that Arik Sharon would make the IDF both a combat effective and economical army and the hostile elements in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip would understand very well who they are dealing with. But I admit I am a political man in the coalition and the coalition is apparently opposed to Arik Sharon and if the Herut has not proposed him, Begin as a member of Herut has not proposed him. Therefore, taking this into consideration, I think that the parties should advance their candidates, as has happened in the past, and there is no reason to suddenly stand up and say: I am intervening in this. [end recording]

[Sukenik] The finance minister admires 'Ezer Weizman very much and understands his reasoning and the defense establishment's reasons for opposing any cut in its budget. Hurvitz complimented Weizman, but said: I have discovered that after deducting all our expenditures, less than 40 percent of the state budget will be left for the rest of the economy and there is a terrible danger that we will be crushed by the burden. But, Hurvitz said, there is no connection between the budget and the resignation.

[Begin Hurvitz recording] It is impossible, under any circumstances, to be in the government and attack it as much as 'Ezer Weizman did. Therefore, he should be outside it. He should have reached that conclusion without the argument with me and without other arguments. He should have stood up and said: I do not agree with the government and I cannot remain in it. [end recording]

[Sukenik] And, among all the politics, an economic declaration as well:

[Begin Hurvitz recording] I am convinced--now I dare to say this--we will not be able to maintain real salaries over the next few years. We will have to give up something. I am not speaking about types, these or those portions, but about the total. We will not be able to do it. If we can, it will only be by printing [more money] and not by further salary increases. [end recording]

DEFEATED BILL WOULD HAVE ALLOWED BEGIN TO DISMISS MINISTERS

TA281809 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] The coalition has once again rejected a bill proposing that the prime minister be given the authority to dismiss ministers. This proposal was submitted by MK's Moshe Shahal [from the Alignment] and Amnon Rubinstein from Shay. Shahal said that, as things stand now, a minister has no personal responsibility for his deeds or misdeeds. Amnon Rubinstein read portions of the Likud and Shay platforms, which he claims include unequivocal support for such a bill, and yet the Likud and the Democrats are ignoring their commitments. The justice minister said that under the present circumstances the gist of the proposal seems positive, but is unrealistic. The firing of a minister causes a government crisis.

'EZER WEIZMAN INTERVIEWED ON HIS RESIGNATION FROM CABINET

TA282147 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 28 May 80

[Interview with outgoing Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman by political correspondent Elimelekh Ram and military correspondent 'Amiram Nir, moderated by Tuvya Sa'ar, within the framework of the weekly "Moqed" program--live]

[Excerpts] [Nir] Mr Defense Minister... sorry, Mr Weizman, your resignation has lead to an internal shake-up of the government--or coalition--components. Was this one of your goals, or perhaps one of your hopes when you decided to resign?

[Weizman] I had such an assessment, yes. I certainly estimated, although I had no clear notion as to what would happen, but I felt that such a process might take place.

[Nir] Did you forsee that your resignation might result in early elections--something that you spoke in favor of on this program?

[Weizman] I had such a view, and I still think so, especially in light of the difficulties experienced in the last 72 hours in the composition [of the Cabinet]. I think this only proves again that elections must be held. This is only one of the leading problems on the agenda that Israel faces.

[Sa'ar] Mr Weizman, do you want this government to fall?

[Weizman] I would like to see a good government in the State of Israel.

[Sa'ar] You did not answer my question.

[Weizman] I repeat: I would like to see a good government in the State of Israel, and I believe such a government can be had.

[Sa'ar] This is not a good government?

[Weizman] If I had thought that my path could have continued inside this Cabinet, I would have remained in the Cabinet. It is not only because of the path taken by the Cabinet on some issues that I left. I think that the Cabinet's functioning must be improved.

[Ram] Mr Weizman, this leads me to the next question. If we sum up the reasons for which you left the Cabinet, it all adds up to the Cabinet malfunctioning. Do you thing it can still be repaired, or is all lost?

[Weizman] In general, the saying "all is lost" does not exist as far as I am concerned. I said once, and I repeat, that I think that in every situation--difficult or easy--leadership is what counts.

[Ram] Do you not fear that the Alignment might--for better or for worse--return to power?

[Weizman] Look, as far as I am concerned, parties are not an end in themselves. For me a party should be a means to obtain the goals that I, as a man, as an Israeli and as a Jew, set for myself. Any government that will provide these needs will be a government that suits me. I do not want to evade the question. I think this Cabinet must and can improve itself. If it cannot, it must go.

[Nir] Yet, until now at least, you have always thought that it was better to remain inside and try to work from within. What made you change your mind?

[Weizman] Certainly, certainly, this is a question I had anticipated. When you are in a situation in which you are not 100 percent in agreement with the ship you are sailing in, you must decide on which issues you can compromise. It is a fact that I compromised on various things: on the settlement issue, with the government's mistake in allowing Gush Emunim to enter the [Hebron] Hadassah building, even though the Cabinet had decided otherwise. I compromised on several things. I admit that on some of them my compromising was a mistake. Yet slowly the cup filled to the brim.

Two months ago I told the prime minister that were I a minister holding a different portfolio I would have resigned, but that since I was defense minister, I would continue in my job. I think he was even glad. When the defense budget began to be discussed, especially 5 weeks after the budget--after long efforts and difficult arguments, and after I had cut for the last 3 years--had been concluded, I thought that I had reached a crossroad. The way the IDF budget was handled seemed to me symptomatic of the Cabinet's functioning.

[Sa'ar] To the point: Mr Weizman, have you tried to form an alliance, or did you, at least, hold talks with the aim of overthrowing the prime minister and replacing him?

[Weizman] Look, this is a question I will, to a certain degree, evade; not because I did it--on the contrary, because I did not do it--but simply because I felt bad about several friends who initiated talks with me exactly on this.

[Sa'ar] Friends in the Cabinet?

[Weizman] Certainly within the Cabinet, but also in the movement.

[Sa'ar] Are you prepared to say....

[Weizman--interrupting] No. I think there were arguments in the Cabinet. I think that many members, if you press them, will admit they are not pleased; many members, who have expressed very severe thoughts on the way the Cabinet functions and about the prime minister. But since I do not believe it is worth while, or beneficial, to enter into a discussion on a personal rather than a substantive level, I will not be dragged into something that some of my friends have been trying to pull me into.

[Nir] In your resignation letter, you wrote about the peace process: Instead of taking determined steps toward a stable and comprehensive peace, we are marching in place. The prime minister has said that by this statement you have caused a lot of political damage to Israel. Is the prime minister not even partly right?

[Weizman] I do not accept the wording that he was not even partly right. Perhaps he was, although I do not think so. I think a lot of damage has already been caused in the last 3 years. Why are we so isolated? Why are the European countries against us? Why is world Jewry asking questions and, in some respects, taking a much more negative stand toward us? Why do we have problems with the United States? Why are so many questions raised in Israel among the people--not only on the peace issue, on many issues? Could not a lot of damage have been caused before as well?

[Nir] Does this, then, justify your adding to them?

[Weizman] No, now they should be brought out in the open and dealt with. Now, one should come and demand--perhaps by taking a strong measure. No doubt what I did was a strong move. By the way, it was a difficult move for me too, people should understand this, too. It was not simple to get up and say farewell to the defense establishment, which I dearly love. Yet I think that mistakes have been made and that the people of Israel have been harmed, including their image abroad. If I added some damage, I can only regret it. It certainly was not my goal. My goal was to shake things up. I strongly suggest that the discussion not center on who will be this or that and who will be such or another minister, but which way the boat is heading.

[Sa'ar] Regarding where the boat is heading, let us return to this passage of your letter. What determined steps could the Cabinet have taken. That have not been taken?

[Weizman] I would have achieved several things that I have no difficulty determining. It is stated in the Camp David agreements--and I would like to remind you that the Camp David accords are not a solution; they are a proposed process--I would have recommended thinking a lot faster about how to remove the military government from the area and how, simultaneously, to maintain Israel's safety. I know that on some things the local Arab populace might have somewhat opposed this issue.

I think it was possible to reach more concrete agreements on the issue of authority. I think more agreements could have been reached on the election process, on the nature of the administrative council. I will not say that I have solutions for everything; I would not say so. I would like to remind you again that Camp David--if I may take advantage of the question you asked me--is not a clear-cut solution; it is a conclusion and an agreement between the two parties saying that the existing situation must change and is, therefore, a recommendation on a certain process rather than a solution.

[Nir] Were you just suggesting the removal of the military government unilaterally?

[Weizman] I did not suggest that at all. In general, as you well remember, I did not deal with the autonomy issue for most of the time. I only joined [the autonomy team] about a month ago, when the defense issue arose. I had the experience of standing before my Egyptian counterpart General 'Ali, with a proposal that was acceptable neither to me nor to my colleagues--and this is part of a process and part of negotiations--and I hope, wish and recommend that we reach an agreement with the Egyptians on the process that should be implemented in the West Bank and Gaza.

[Ram] Yet with all those ideas you talked about, for almost a year you did not participate in the debates of the autonomy negotiating team, up to the latest discussions in the Accadia Hotel. Yet now you are leaving. Is there no fear, Mr Weizman, that your departure will not help, if not actually sabotage, the negotiating process?

[Weizman] Sabotage is a very sharp word. As for not helping--no doubt, because I will not be there. Certainly I will not help, yet perhaps this will help.

[Ram] Do you really think so?

[Weizman] Perhaps, and I wish it upon the Cabinet....

[Ram, interrupting] This is interesting. How would it help the Cabinet?

[Weizman] The Cabinet will become more united; there will be less arguments there. People now say that I halted things. Now they will not have to halt, and the frontrunner will be able to run up front. It will really be possible to run with the autonomy issue, too, with a more unified and consolidated view, without interruptions.

[Ram] But you do not really think so.

[Weizman] You know what? You are right. I do not think so 100 percent. But it may be that precisely the process of my leaving will unify the government. I do not believe a person should think that he is indispensable.

[Nir] In fact, you have accused the Government of Israel--or other members of the negotiating team--of halting the process. Is only the Israeli Government to blame for stopping the process?

[Weizman] Certainly not, certainly not. I have a lot against the Egyptians, too. Certainly not. Yet what I repeatedly maintain is that if we had gone at a different speed, faster, we would have found the Egyptians more pliable. The iron is slowly cooling, and to hammer cold iron is a lot more difficult than hitting it while it is hot.

[Sa'ar] On Sunday, when you announced your resignation, you told your friends--and it appears to have been publicized and broadcast--that you are resigning--and I quote: for refueling and rearming and that you will yet take off. Do you still hope to be prime minister of Israel?

[Weizman] Any serious politician--and I do not know if I am a serious one or not--must give an affirmative answer. The question is only: What do you mean by hoping? Let us not be evasive. If I reach the point where I am offered, or a situation arises where I will beable to head a government, I will take up the offer and do it.

[Nir] Will you continue to be a member of the Herut movement?

[Weizman] Yes, I will continue to be a member of the Herut movement. I will remain in the Likud framework. I have friends and opponents there. I have supporters there and people who do not support me. I repeat: For me, a party is a means, not an end. If in the Herut movement, within the Likud, I see that I can realize some of the goals I had established for myself, I will remain in that framework. If not, I may seek a different path. I am hoping with utmost hope that I will not. I would like to point out something else at this juncture. I have never been a member of a different party. I have never jumped from one party to another, and I have never established my own party.

[Ram] If there were early elections, something which you have been advocating, would you vote Likud, if the Likud is headed by Menahem Begin?

[Weizman] No.

[Sa'ar] How would you vote?

[Weizman] I do not know what there would be instead. Look, I am saying with all frankness that one of the reasons for my leaving the government now is because I think the Cabinet, as it is today--and the way it functions today and the way the prime minister is leading it--will not win the next elections. In my opinion, and to the best of my knowledge, there are many members of both the Herut movement and the Likud and its factions who think exactly as I do, but they escaped to their shelters.

[Sa'ar] Will you be active in the Knesset?

[Weizman] I doubt it. The fact of the matter is that I doubt it. For me, the Knesset is one big questionmark. I once said that I may resign from the Knesset. I may still do so. I am not sure, though, and I say with all sincerity that I do not want to seem to be underestimating the Knesset, but I do not see myself sitting on the foreign affairs and security committee, asking: What is happening? Has a ground forces command been established or not? The chief of staff will then explain to me why he did or did not do this. Nor do I think it is fair, especially when things are still so fresh. With all due respect to the Knesset, I decided to remain a Knesset member, but I think my activity will be very limited.

FIFTH ECOWAS SUMMIT CONFERENCE HELD IN LOME 27-28 MAY

Text of Eyadema Speech

AB271810 Lome Domestic Service in French 0950 GMT 27 May 80

[Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema's speech at the opening ceremony of the ECOWAS summit conference in Lome on 27 May 1980--live]

[Text] Mr Chairman, heads of state and government, heads of delegations, ministers, Mr Secretary General of the OAU, Mr Executive Secretary of ECOWAS, Mr Secretary General of CEAO [West African Economic Community], Your Excellencies, ambassadors, honorable guests, ladies and gentlemen, militants of the Togolese revolution: The Togolese people feel greatly honored to be hosting once again the conference of heads of states and government of our community. It would like to interpret the massive participation at the present meeting as a sign of the continued interest that member states show in ECOWAS. Besides, how can it be otherwise since this organization was created in order to insure our collective autonomy in an increasingly harsh world for the weak and a world which daily shrinks away from the vital virtues of solidarity and mutual aid?

That is why first of all, on behalf of the Togolese people, members of the Togolese People's Rally and on my own behalf, I would like to welcome you, Mr Chairman and dear brothers, to Togo, land of dialog and harmony. Apart from the imperfections which may exist in the organization of the summit, we would like you to know that the Togolese people welcome you in the traditional African way and invite you to feel at home in Togo.

Mr Chairman and dear brothers, allow me also to pay due homage to our chairman, Mr Leopold Sedar Senghor [applause], Mr Leopold Sedar Senghor, who has presided competently over our community since the last summit in Dakar.

Mr Chairman, 5 years ago when we engaged our people, by a solemn act in a common enterprise, we were aware that we were making a fearful bet with history. But the reasons which led us at that time to set up a framework and institutions for transforming our desires into reality and meeting the aspirations of our peoples are still the same today.

The recent developments which have arisen in international relations have confirmed the soundness of our opinions and the opportunities that our enterprise offers. In fact, the international economic environment has multiplied the obligations of the Third World countries and aggravated the [word indistinct] of a system which becomes increasingly unjust and intolerable every day.

In addition, the [word indistinct] structures of colonization have strongly jeopardized and sometimes annihilated the efforts and sacrifices made by our people. The numerous and intense negotiations between the north and the south on commercial, financial, technological issues have not yielded encouraging results. They have finally turned into barren quarrels, and at the same time the developed countries have organized themselves at all levels in the international circles to stubbornly resist any profound transformation of a world economic order which is nevertheless unanimously condemned. Therefore, at the end of one of these series of difficult negotiations the results today are simple but frightening. In fact, while the large majority of industrialized countries remain [word indistinct] of the natural and (?primary) resources in their geographical area, the deterioration of the terms of trade continues to the detriment of developing countries in general and African countries in particular. In addition to this continuous degradation--one of the remedies for which would be the revaluation and the stabilization of the cost of basic products--it is appropriate to add the devastating effects of inflation coupled with (?indebtedness) which has become excessive and intolerable.

[Words indistinct] the incomprehension of the industrialized nations which was recently illustrated by the negotiations on the price of cocoa. This failure which follows others confirms that our partners in the Northern Hemisphere are hardly ready to abandon their [word indistinct] and all sorts of maneuvers to spread their hold and their (?domination) over the economies of our continent. For a few years now there has been an increasingly visible degradation of the standard of life and living conditions in the developing countries. Also, our economic, financial and technical dependence on the developed world has increased in recent years.

Mr President, these few examples illustrate the size and the significance of the crisis which is attacking our economies, which are hardly capable today of putting together enough resources to either control or wipe out the crisis. But, in the face of these difficulties, our states must define the framework and the elements of renewed solidarity. There is the need, in particular, to organize a development which will be divorced from the [word indistinct] frontiers of the past. For our action to succeed it must be coherent and it should be based on sure resources and concrete projects capable of providing our respective economies with the basic conditions of complementary, rigorous and harmonious development.

The proper management of our numerous resources requires the development of more regular and stronger consultation between our countries. This consultation should be inspired by the feeling of vital complementarity and solidarity.

Actually, the economic field contains the seed of the promise of greater cohesion and more active solidarity between the various parties present. It is true that the demands of our development are felt with the same (?intensity by all of us) regardless of our ideological and political differences. Why should we not act together to (?safeguard) our common interests for the well-being of our people since, together, we can work towards improving the living conditions of the people we have in our charge. [applause] To go on with what I was saying, economic and social development attained by concrete achievements is capable of reinforcing our internal cohesion and insuring the foundation of our economic freedom. We have all agreed to make this effort. (?We think that our people) accept our communal spirit. Our people, who are the backbone of our economies, are well informed today of the advantages and the promises of ECOWAS. It is therefore essential for our community to increasingly aspire to a positive and efficient coalition against poverty among our people and for the unity and collective autonomy of its members. That is why we are pleased with the ground which has already been covered, and the important stages which have already been reached in accordance with the plan which was envisaged. The essential organs for the implementation of the various programs of action have already been created, but a lot remains to be done. We must strive to integrate our development projects and give our collective support to them. To this end, the institutions of our community must work continuously to affirm a new solidarity based on the complementarity of our economies.

[Words indistinct] to fulfill its role and actively participate along with the other economic bodies in the salvation of the world economy. But before this, the institutions which already exist must rapidly become operational to take an active part in the development efforts of our states. Also, if we intend to resume discussions and dialog on the burning issues of our times, then we must first count on our own strength and consider the aid that friendly countries and international institutions and organizations are prepared to give us as a contribution to our own efforts. In the face of the problems of our collective development we are going to outline a new approach with a spirit of solidarity drawn from the sources of the best African [word indistinct] and based on the realities of today. [applause] In this context there is the need to allow our collective economic interests to override our political and ideological differences. This, Mr Chairman, is the new way of hope and salvation which our organization should strive to forge and help to [word indistinct]. Though this task is colossal it is not impossible to achieve.

In order to succeed it must go to the point and conform to the real possibilities and the aspirations of our people. The most urgent task is to rid our region of the specter of hunger. This (?decade) should be dedicated to agricultural production and self-sufficiency in food production in our region. [applause]

In this respect we cannot but wholeheartedly support the determined OAU resolution made at the Lagos summit. In addition we must strive to diversify and intensify exchanges between African countries in order to replace vertical trade--source of our dependence--with horizontal relations, which are better adapted to our needs and to the demands of our development. In this order of ideas the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of ECOWAS which we created last year must be restructured to enable it to participate more actively in the (?development of our economies). Its mission should be to collect and distribute information and documents on the services and goods available in member countries to economists, national chambers of commerce, and governments, in order to stimulate exchange between us, and to enable us to cover our needs by importing our goods from our immediate neighbors before turning to countries outside our subregion.

The unity to which all the people of our continent aspire will be possible only if we walk on the wise and practical path of concrete achievements realized within the framework of economic bodies such as ECOWAS, which organizes daily this complementarity without which our economies would rapidly find themselves confronted with insurmountable impasses and, as a result, condemned to (?destruction).

We must reinforce our cooperation in the fields of energy, basic industries, and communication which today constitute the strategic links for sound economic integration. But to attain these objectives three conditions must be put together. First peace, next political stability, without which no sound development action can be undertaken; finally a resolute political desire to undertake actions together in the service of the common good.

Mr Chairman and dear brothers, the events presently shaking the world, in particular the [word indistinct] maneuvers organized by foreign powers and which tend to destabilize our regimes should incite us to become actively vigilant and make our solidarity more effective. We must, at all costs, maintain peace and stability which are indispensible for any development. This is why the pact of nonaggression which [words indistinct] must acquire greater significance. (?Our collective acceptance of) a common defense pact will free us from the permanent obsession of war and aggression. [applause] It is when each member state of ECOWAS knows that it need not fear its neighbor, which is ready to fly to its aid in the event of any aggression, that we can serenely occupy ourselves with the multiple tasks imposed by our development. [applause]

The evil forces coming from outside will be discouraged permanently. Is it such a pity to see a large part of our funds being sunk into the purchase of arms which sow seeds of hatred and misery among our people and which, above all, are produced outside our continent? Africa must no longer support acts of destabilization and maneuvers by imperialists to extend their spheres of ideological influence.

We extend a solemn appeal to all areas of the continent where peace remains precarious an to all parties concerned to hear the voice of consultation and dialog, for no problem can be solved permanently by the use of arms. That is why, in accordance with its vocation of peace, cooperation and progress, the Togolese people will participate in any initiative aimed at safeguarding peace in our region because we in Togo are convinced that with peace and unity among our people we can obtain the necessary force for this new war for our economic and social development.

Long live ECOWAS and long live international cooperation! [applause]

Shagari Speech

AB272201 Lome Domestic Service in French 0950 GMT 27 May 80

[Speech by Nigerian President Alhaji Shehu Shagari at the opening session of the ECOWAS summit conference in Lome--delivered in English, live]

[Excerpts] Chairman, brother heads of state and government, honorable ministers, excellencies, distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

It is a great pleasure and joy for me to address this august gathering and participate for the first time in the deliberations of the (?authority) of heads of state and government of ECOWAS. I would like to extend to you, chairman, the warm hand of fellowship of the entire people of Nigeria and convey to you, heads of state and gove ment, and the entire people whom you represent, the sincere greetings of the governme and the people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

I would like, on behalf of my colleagues, [few words indistinct] to congratulate our outgoing chairman, His Excellency President Leopold Senghor of Senegal, for the immense contribution to the progress made in the subregion during the past year. The records speak for themselves. During the past year, he provided our community with a very efficient and effective leadership, dedication to the economic progress of the West African subregion. I am sure that you will not relent in your efforts to continue to promote the economic development of the subregion as well as the elimination of all forms of neocolonialism, exploitation and external interference designed to disunite our people.

I have on several occasions expressed publicly the foreign policy of my administration. Africa and African interests constitute the centerpiece of Nigeria's foreign policy. We are committed to the total liberation of African and the establishment of a fair and just economic order. We are determined to create an environment in which the African will realize his full potential, enjoy the fruits of his labor and exercises full control over the resources with which God has blessed this continent. I therefore wish to assure you, Mr Chairman, that my administration is fully committed to the Economic Community of West African States. It shall contribute its full support to the community and the realization of its goals and objectives.

This community came into being only in 1975. Ever since, in spite of initial problems, its achievements have been remarkable and it has become the model of cooperation for the rest of Africa and most of the developing world. I do not need to catalogue these achievements. Suffice it to say that within this short period, we have concluded and ratified the treaty and the protocol annex to the treaty and an effective administrative machinery has been set up for the secretariat and the fund. Other achievements include adoption of the protocol on free movements of persons, right of residence and establishment, convention on privileges and immunities, protocol on nonaggression and a common ECOWAS statistical and customs nomenclature. I could also mention the breaking down of colonial barriers and prejudices which formerly prevented meaningful interaction among our people. That we have achieved so much does not mean that there have not been problems. [words indistinct] Among these has been the low levels of contributions by [illegible]bers. We all have our own internal budgetary problems, but these should not prevent [illegible]rom making the required efforts to fulfill our financial obligations to the community. The financial problem created by the low level of contribution came to near crisis a few months ago, as revealed in the financial comptroller's report. I should first like to urge all member states to back up all political commitments with the necessary financial means to carry out the community's mandate.

Secondly, there seems to have been too slow progress in the ratification of some of our [words indistinct]. I would like particularly to refer to the protocol on free movement of persons. Since this protocol was signed a year ago, only 6 countries out of 16 have so far ratified the instrument. Nigeria has, of course, signed the instrument of ratification and has long started to implement the letter and spirit of the protocol. Today, large numbers of national of member states are taking advantage of this protocol in Nigeria. I urge all member states which have not ratified the protocol to do so as early as possible.

Thirdly, there is the problem of staffing. For the community to make rapid progress, its institutions must be manned by competent and dedicated staff whose term of office depends on performance rather than political settlements.

The institutions must be assisted by recruiting and retaining capable hands. In this connection, the possibility of a [word indistinct] national experts from member countries should be examined as a short-term solution.

Mr Chairman, the progress we have so far made has been the result of unflinching commitment and strong political will to achieve our (?set) objectives. It has also been due to the degree of understanding and cooperation between the ECOWAS on the one hand, and the CEAO, the Mano River Union and other similar institutions within and outside the community. For those within the community, such cooperation is imperative given the common interests and the objectives of these organizations. Sister organizations must not be regarded as rivals, but as partners in progress. I have every reason to believe that the cooperation that has existed among these organizations in the past will continue. Mr Chairman, the progress ECOWAS has so far made is beginning to attract a lot of attention. There are those who admire our achievements while others [words indistinct] will attempt to use all possible means to undermine our prosperity. My dear colleagues, we have to be very vigilant [words indistinct].

Finally Mr Chairman, I would like to draw attention to some of the issues which I believe are very urgent and should be resolved early. These relate to the definition of community (?citizens) and the finalization of rules of (?behaviour). Closely associated with these is the elimination of barriers to (?intra-African) states. I understand that these issues are receiving attention for they are so vital for the timely realization of some of our objectives that they must be resolved early. Agreement on these will be very much a matter of political will. Mr Chairman, ECOWAS belongs to all of us; ECOWAS was founded for the benefit of the countries of the subregion. Every member must endeavor to shoulder this responsibility and obtain his fair share of the benefits arising from the community. We must, at national levels, guard against the attempts of others to reap these benefits [words indistinct]. If we don't, the continued progress of our community will be in danger. I am sure that we shall succeed.

Mr Chairman, excellencies, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, I thank you for the opportunity given to me to address you and for your kind attention. Long live ECOWAS! Long live the Organization of African Unity! Long live the People's Republic of Togo!

Senghor Speech

AB281152 Lome Domestic Service in French 1217 GMT 27 May 80

[Speech by Senegalese President Leopold Sendar Senghor to the opening session of the ECOWAS summit in Lome--live]

[Excerpts] Dear colleagues, heads of delegations, ministers, ladies and gentlemen: I would first like to associate myself with the thanks that have just been expressed to President Eyadema on behalf of the heads of state and government of the ECOWAS.

I would like to tell you about the work achieved by our organization since last year. In Dakar, on 29 May 1979, I closed the ECOWAS summit conference. Right after that, we began to implement the resolutions adopted at the Dakar summit. In this connection, the ministerial council approved the proposals submitted by our executive secretary. These were, more precisely, a four-part priority working scheme; the establishment and promotion of exchange inside the community; the free movement of people; the coordination and extension of telecommunications and transport; and lastly, the development of industry and agriculture.

We will set up a special fund for the development of telecommunications, for which a financing loan worth about $50 million was approved in principle by the European Economic Community. Concerning transport, the executive secretariat was drawn up a program for the coordination of development, which the appropriate commission has approved. This program was submitted to the conference for approval. It is aimed at efficient liaison among all member states in order to promote the economic and social activities within the community.

The conference of heads of state held in May 1979 set up a special ministerial commission in charge of drawing up a defense pact for ECOWAS. This commission, comprising ministers of defense, foreign and economic affairs, held a second meeting from 19 to 21 May 1980 here in Lome. The first meeting, scheduled to take place in Lagos from 2 to 4 May 1980, was postponed because there were only 11 delegations instead of the 16 expected. However, I should point out that strikes by the Lagos airport personnel were a decisive factor in the nonparticipation of other countries.

In the deliberations, the ministerial commission was split up into small committees including Ivory Coast, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo. The limited committee held a meeting in Lagos from 4 to 7 February 1980 and prepared one document based on two proposals made by Senegal and Togo. There is no need for me to stress the importance of a defense pact. As we are all aware, and as is often said, there is no development without security. It might be advisable and even normal to leave out those countries (?which do not want to join) and let those wishing to do so negotiate a defense pact.

Before closing my speech, I would like to mention an important fact, the date for holding our conferences. The ECOWAS conference held in Lagos late in April 1979 decided that from then on, the community's summit would be held on 26 May. However experience has proved that this decision must be reconsidered, primarily because 1 or 2 days of hard work are not enough. Therefore, we must go for 3 days. On the other hand, it may be advisable to say simply that the conference will be held in the last (?week) of May.

Lastly, I would like to mention the last OAU economic summit, which was held in Lagos on 28 and 29 April 1980 and which was a great success, as you are all aware. As if by chance, this summit described ECOWAS as a model to be followed by the other regions of our continent. [applause] I mean north, east, southern and central Africa. We must endeavor to achieve, by the end of the 1980's, total integration within ECOWAS with free trade and movement of people, on the one hand, and the coordination of our economic and social development programs, on the other hand. I would like us to be fully aware of our role, that is for our 16 states, representing one third of our continent, to continue our vanguard struggle so that by the year 2000, the 50 states of our continent and those which will have come to be, will be integrated in an economic community with due regard for our conditions, but particularly for our faith in eternal values of [words indistinct] Africa. [applause]

Before adjourning the session, I want to tell you that we just met in camera and decided to set up a four-member commission including Presidents Eyadema, Houphouet-Boigny, Siaka Stevens and Sekou Toure to make a decision on the situation of Liberia. The session is now adjourned and will resume again this afternoon at 1600. [applause]

End of Summit Conference

AB271426 Paris AFP in English 1416 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Lome, 28 May (AFP)--The fifth summit conference of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), ended here today.

Twelve heads of state from the 16-nation community took part in the two-day meeting and a 13th, Master Sergeant Samuel Doe who seized power in Liberia last month, was excluded from the talks.

The next summit conference has been fixed for May 28 in Freetown, Sierra Leone. ECOWAS was inaugurated in Lagos in May 1975 under the guiding force of Nigeria and Togo.

DOE LEAVES LOME AFTER ECOWAS SUMMIT REBUFF

AB281355 Paris AFP in French 1200 GMT 28 May 80

[Excerpts] Lome 28 May (AFP)--The president of Liberia, Master Sergeant Samuel Doe, who was excluded from the ECOWAS summit, left Lome for Monrovia on Wednesday morning aboard the personal Boeing 707 of Guinean President Sekou Toure.

Master Sergeant Doe, who was accompanied by the whole of the Liberian delegation, including Mr Bacchus Matthews, minister of foreign affairs, was seen off at the airport by Mr Ayite Mivedor, permanent director of the Togolese People's Rally (RPT), the only party.

The Liberian head of state stayed in his room at the 2 February Hotel on Tuesday when heads of state and governments present at the conference met behind closed doors, before the opening session, to decide on the participation of Liberia in the work of the summit. A commission appointed by all the delegations together and composed of Sierra Leone, Guinea, Ivory Coast and Togo thought it advisable to exclude Liberia from the conference. Even the Liberian flags were taken from the conference halls. According to authorized circles, this decision was taken as a sign of protest against the hasty actions of the new government which came to power after the 12 April coup, during which the head of state and president, current chairman of the OAU, Mr William Tolbert was killed.

In spite of everything, the Liberian head of state on Tuesday afternoon made a quick tour of the Togolese capital, escorted by motorcades. The Liberian delegation was confined to its presidential suite on Tuesday evening, while the other delegations present attended a gala dinner offered by the Togolese president, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema.

PRESIDENTS STEVENS, OULD HAYDALA CONFER IN LOME

AB280950 Freetown Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 27 May 80

[Excerpts] The ECOWAS summit got underway in Lome, the capital of Togo, today at that country's national assembly.

President Siaka Stevens last evening received in audience at his hotel suite Mauritania's President Ould Haydala. The president expressed delight at the Mauritanian president's visit and he recalled his unscheduled stop at Nouakchott in May 1979, when en route to Senegal to attend the fourth ECOWAS summit. President Stevens reaffirmed Sierra Leone's support for the POLISARIO and condemned strife and violence in African continental affairs. The Mauritanian head of state, President Ould Haydala, responded with similar sentiments and later held private talks with Dr Stevens. The meeting centered on the situation in Mauritania following the change of government in 1977.

AFP REPORTS ON RESULTS OF ECOWAS SUMMIT CONFERENCE

AB281745 Paris AFP in French 1619 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Lome, 28 May (AFP)--The heads of state and government of ECOWAS member states who have been meeting in Lome since Tuesday have decided that the free trade zone for regional products in west Africa will come into effect in 1981.

The fifth conference of ECOWAS has in fact adopted the program for the liberalization of trade instituted during the creation of the organization in 1975 in Lagos. It is noted that this decision constitutes the first stage in the setting up of a west African common market.

The final communique states that the customs tariffs and the non-tariff barriers on raw materials will be totally eliminated as of 28 May 1981. Concerning industrial products, the heads of state have decided that the products considered to be priority products by the community will be liberalized more rapidly by the member states which are more industrially advanced.

Nevertheless, the procedure for the liberalization of these products will begin in 1981 and should be completed 8 years later. In this same field a procedure for the compensation of loss of revenue was adopted by the conference which decided to deduct 20 percent of the compensation due to the more industrially advanced countries for the benefit of the poorer countries for a period of 5 years.

The second essential point--the draft project for a defense pact--considered by the Togolese head of state Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema during the opening ceremony as the logical followup of the signing of the ECOWAS draft nonaggression pact, was examined closely by the participants. In this regard, the heads of state, the final communique says, have underlined the urgent need to organize defense on a collective basis in order to guarantee the institutions of the community. A limited ministerial commission comprising 8 member states, namely Cape Verde, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo, was set up for this purpose. It will have to draw up the final bill for the mutual defense aid pact on the basis of the bill drawn up in Lagos last February.

The Togolese head of state, current chairman of the organization, has been asked to convene this commission as soon as possible. Preparatory discussions on this subject were particularly difficult as certain countries, in particular Mali, Benin, Cape Verde and Guinea Bissau raised several objections.

Concerning transport and telecommunications, the conference established a short and a long-term program. A program of transportation aimed at insuring the coordination and the development of a modern and efficient system within the west African subregion was thus adopted. The conference also decided to create a special fund for telecommunications in order to facilitate the implementation of the program already established. Its duty will be to guarantee loans and subsidies that may be given to member states.

The heads of state also decided to create a regional center of information on all agricultural produce as part of a community program whose aim will be to promote inter-African exchanges in this field.

Finally, tackling the situation prevailing in Liberia, whose delegation, led by Master Sergeant Samuel Doe, was not granted a seat during the summit; the final communique states that the conference has set up a commission of four member states (Sierra Leone, Togo, Ivory Coast and Guinea) to follow the development of events in Liberia. This commission will have to present a report to the ECOWAS conference of Freetown in May 1981.

Twelve heads of state personally attended this fifth summit. They are from Togo, Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, Upper Volta, Niger, Mali and Mauritania. The rest are from Guinea, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau and Senegal. One head of government, from Cape Verde, was also present. The Ivory Coast and Gambia were represented by ministers.

The next summit will take place on 28 May 1981 in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

PANA OFFICIALS SPEAK AT OPENING OF DAKAR COUNCIL MEETING

AB282147 Paris AFP in French 1840 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Dakar, 28 May (AFP)--The extraordinary meeting of the Intergovernmental Council of the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY (PANA) began on Wednesday in Dakar, seat of the PANA, under the chairmanship of Mr Lucio Lara, Angolan minister of information.

This meeting will study the setting up of technical, administrative and financial structures of the agency. In their opening addresses, Mr Lara; Cheikh Ousmane Diallo, director of the PANA; Mr Baba Hakim Aidara, representative of UNESCO; and Mr Saliou Fall, representative of the Senegalese Ministry of Information, emphasized the importance of the decolonization and demonopolization of information within the framework of the new world order.

The gathering, the selection, the choice and dissemination of news which is daily filtered to us by foreign news media, Mr Diallo stated, is beyond our control [word indistinct] and to our disadvantage especially when the developed countries hold the monopoly of the information media.

Mr Lara hoped to put the PANA into operation for the next OAU summit to be held in July in Freetown, Sierra Leone, as envisaged by the intergovernmental council of the PANA.

While waiting for the regional telecommunications satellite project for Africa to be realized and for the completion of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network (PANAFTEL) in 1983, we have to rely on intermediary techniques, taking into account the realities and possibilities of the host country and member states, Mr Diallo also said.

He regretted that the agency's activities have so far been marked in the administrative and financial spheres by the slow pace at which member states pay their contributions. If the $1.75 million adopted by the ministerial conference should be able to cover the period necessary for the studies. He added, it should be envisaged that the next budget be calculated on the basis of benefits accruing from services rendered by PANA subscribers.

The meeting of the inter-governmental council of the PANA, which comprise the 50 member states of the OAU, will continue for 3 days.

ETHIOPIA

MENGISTU RETURNS FROM 4-DAY SUDAN VISIT

LD281214 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 28 May 80 EA

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam flew home at noon today from Khartoum and described his 4-day official visit to the Sudan and talks with His Excellency President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri as fruitful and an all-round success.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu stated that he was highly impressed with the immense expression of sincere friendship of the leadership and people of the Sudan during his visit, which, he said, had opened a new vista and a strengthening of the longstanding relations between the two neighboring countries.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu said he had extended an invitation to President Ja'far Numayri to visit socialist Ethiopia and the invitation had been accepted.

Chairman Mengistu was accorded a warm welcome on arrival at Bole International Airport by Comrade Fikre-Selassie Wogderess, Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] secretary general; Comrade Fisseha Desta, PMAC assistant secretary general and deputy chairman of the council of ministers; Standing Committee members of the PMAC; commissioners; force commanders; members of the diplomatic corps; and representatives of the international organizations.

A joint communique on the 4-day visit of Comrade Chairman Mengistu to the Sudan will be released this evening in Addis Ababa and Khartoum.

ZIMBABWEAN DELEGATION BRINGS MESSAGE FOR MENGISTU

LD281253 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 28 May 80 EA

[Text] A three-man delegation from the Government of Zimbabwe arrived in Addis Ababa this morning to deliver a special message from Comrade Robert Mugabe, prime minister of Zimbabwe, to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam.

The Zimbabwe delegation was welcomed at Bole International Airport by Comrade Dr Amare Tekle, head of the African and Middle East Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

KENYA

MOI RETURNS FROM OFFICIAL VISIT TO IRAQ, ABU DHABI

LD281850 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 28 May 80 EA

[Excerpt] The president, His Excellency Mr Daniel arap Moi, today stated that the National Assembly will soon be called upon to enact a law which will cater for corporal punishment for hoarders of essential goods. The president, who addressed thousands of wananchi at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport on arrival after his official visit to Iraq and Abu Dhabi, stressed that the hoarding of essential commodities as an evil that must be eradicated from the midst of our society.

President Moi disclosed that Iraq had agreed to advance Kenya with a loan of 220 million shillings to assist Kenya's development projects. Kenya, under agreed terms, will be able to buy oil direct from Iraq. Abu Dhabi will loan Kenya about 29 million sterling pounds, which will finance road construction projects as well as development of geothermal energy at Olkaria, Naivasha. The president urged all Kenyans to increase the production of beef and horticultural produce for export to Iraq and Abu Dhabi.

Thanking the people of the two countries for the warm welcome they accorded him and his entourage, President Moi urged Kenyans to tour other countries so as to strengthen the friendship that already existed between them. The president emphasized that through love, peace and unity, Kenya will be able to achieve greater prosperity.

SEYCHELLES

TANJUG REPORTS SPEECH BY PRESIDENT RENE

LD252212 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1827 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Victoria, May 25 (SAP)--President France Albert Rene, in a radio interview last night refuted rumors against his government and talked about the socialist society being created in Seychelles.

The president described as baseless rumors that Seychelles was to become a communist state on the 5th of June. Explaining that Seychelles was creating a socialist system suited to its needs, President Rene said, "We believe that everybody should be given equal opportunities. We believe that everybody must start with the same tools and from (?there) develop themselves to their capacities." He mentioned the new health scheme, the education system which has just started. The social security scheme and the full employment scheme as examples of what the Seychelles socialist society was about.

The celebrations of President Rene's coming to power will highlight on June 5 the biggest military parade ever held in the country.

UGANDA

MINISTER SAYS BINAISA NOT REMOVED IN FAVOR OF OBOTE

LD252120 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 25 May 80 EA

[Summary] The minister of internal affairs, Mr Sam Tewungwa, has dismissed rumors that Mr Binaisa was removed to be replaced by force by former President Obote. He was addressing a meeting at Bunya County, where he said, Uganda is a democratic country. The minister of information and broadcasting, Dr Anyoti, and other National Consultative Council members also spoke.

OBOTE PROMISES UPC CONFERENCE TO BE HELD SOON

LD281843 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 May 80 EA

[Text] Former President Obote has promised members of the UPC [Uganda People's Congress] delegation who went to Bushenyi that the party conference will be held very soon. He was speaking to UPC delegations instead of a convention, which has canceled [words indistinct]. The party leadership (?said) that the people must organize themselves from the grassroots. Dr Obote appealed to the members of the UPC to understand that the party is a congress of all the people of Uganda and does not abide by race, religion or tribe.

He told the members to walk with their heads high and be proud of their party, because it was the only single party in Uganda which contributed most to the liberation of Uganda. He called on them to prepare themselves so that they are ready to lead the country if they win the forthcoming elections. Dr Obote called on all Ugandans to respect one another and respect the political feelings of others, because that is the true meaning of democracy.

The meeting was attended by some ministers; NCC [National Consultative Council]--members; the former minister of foreign affairs, Mr Sam Odaka; the UPC Executive Committee Members; the former speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Shafiq Arain; and the former deputy mayor of Kampala, Mr (Gobi Singh), who is now legal adviser to the UPC. After the meeting there was a reception at Dr Obote's residence in Bushenyi.

Talks With Officials

LD290710 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 29 May 80 EA

[Excerpts] It has been announced that former President Obote, who arrived in Bushenyi on Tuesday from Tanzania at the end of 9 years of exile, will arrive in Entebbe today at (?twc) p.m.

He will later proceed to Kampala, where he is to have 2 quiet days of consultations with government officials and members of the UPC [Uganda People's Congress] national organizing committee in charge of his return.

UNLF NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OFFICIALS REPLACED

LD290658 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 29 May 80 EA

[Text] The vice chairman of the Uganda National Liberation Front [UNLF] district committee and minister of power, posts and telecommunications, Mr Akena Pojok, has assured all UNLF district chairmen that district branch offices and district executive committees shall continue to function normally.

In a circular letter to all UNLF district chairmen about the change of leadership in the UNLF, the vice chairman said that chairmen that the chairman of the NCC, Mr Edward Rugumayo; the secretary of the political and diplomatic commission, Mr Dan Wadada Nabudere; and the secretary of the NCC, Mr Omwony Ojok, were out of the country during the change and it would appear they will be absent for some time. Mr Alex Waibale has been elected by the NCC to chair its meetings. The other posts will be filled as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, Mr Pojok, together with Mr Ateker Ejalu, the secretary of the Information and National Guidance Commission, have resolved to reactivate the commission and named Mr (Justin Ateki) as its deputy secretary.

CAMEROON

CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER AID TO CHADIAN REFUGEES

AB281917 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] The National Commission for the Management of Aid to Chadian Refugees has expressed concern over the amount of aid available to the increasing number of Chadian refugees in the northern town of Kousseri. In a statement issued after an information tour of Kousseri last weekend, members of the commission declared that the present amount of aid is not sufficient to cater for the more than 200,000 Chadian refugees now in Kousseri.

Present assistance was estimated to cater for 80,000 refugees, but the continued influx of thousands of refugees has made it difficult for local authorities and (banner) organizations to cope with problems of feeding and housing. The commission noted that the refugee situation in Kousseri was deteriorating.

The commission was led by the secretary general at the presidency and included the minister of state for the armed forces and the governor of the northern province.

CHAD

FIERCE FIGHTING RESUMES IN NDJAMENA; CABINET MEETS

AB281318 Paris AFP in English 1244 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Ndjamena, May 28 (AFP)--Fierce fighting resumed in the battle for the capital of Chad between forces backing President Goukouni Oueddei and the Armed Forces of the North (FAN) of Hissein Habre after a weekend of relative calm.

FAN forces lost 55 men killed and six taken prisoner, three of them seriously wounded, according to the pro-Goukouni CHADIAN PRESS AGENCY, ATP, on Monday. The latest fighting in Ndjamena began on March 21. The agency added that the fighting was continuing to the advantage of the legal forces. It did not mention any losses by pro-Goukouni forces.

The Chadian Armed Forces (FAT) of Vice President Wadal Abdelkader Kamougue went back into battle on the southern front after apparently having withdrawn for more than a week.

From dawn until dusk on Monday they bombarded FAN positions along the Chari River. They fell back after failing in an attempt to cross the Chagoua bridge, the sole access to Ndjamena from the south, a reliable source added.

Several civilians wounded by mortar fire in the African quarters of the town were taken by canoe on Tuesday to Kousseri, on the Cameroon side of the Chari, for treatment by a French military medical team.

Earlier, on Sunday, interior minister of Chad's transitional National Union Government, Mahamat Abba Said, chaired a cabinet meeting to examine the possibility of boosting government activity and holding concrete elections, ATP said. The Agency added that the cabinet had decided to reinforce the material means of the information, communications and transport services.

It said the cabinet also set up a consciousness-raising committee to carry out action among refugees from the fighting in Chad. About 80,000 are in north Cameroon and nearly 40,000 in Nigeria.

This committee, under the responsibility of the health minister, would work with the International Committee of the Red Cross, ATP said.

Paris Reports 53 Killed

LD281338 Paris Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] After a relatively quiet weekend, fighting has resumed in Ndjamena between Goukouni Queddei's men and those of Hissein Habre. The provisional toll from this fighting is 53 dead and 6 taken prisoner.

CONGO

GABONESE FOREIGN MINISTER LEADS VISITING DELEGATION

AB281405 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 28 May 80

[Summary] This morning a Gabonese governmental delegation arrived here in Brazzaville. The Gabonese delegation is led by the Gabonese foreign minister, Martin Bongo, who, on arrival, briefed the press on the cooperation between Gabon and the Congo. Mr Bongo said the Gabonese delegations's visit to Brazzaville falls within the framework of the working session of the Gabonese-Congolese joint commission, the aim of which is to further strengthen the brotherly relations between the two countries. This cooperation is the more important and necessary because Gabon and the Congo share the same border and have common interests. Mr Martin Bongo said it is necessary to intensify inter-African economic cooperation, as was decided in the recent OAU economic summit in Lagos.

The Gabonese delegation is to spend 3 days in the People's Republic of the Congo.

RWANDA

NONALIGNED COUNTRIES' RADIOS FORM WORKING GROUP ON TRAINING

AB271210 Paris AFP in French 1027 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Kigali, 27 May (AFP)--In Kigali, in the republic of Rwanda, on Monday, the radio organizations of the nonaligned countries launched a working group for training of cadres. This working group includes delegates from Rwanda, Algeria, Cuba, Nigeria and Yugoslavia.

In his inaugural speech, Mr Christopher Mfizi, the director of the Rwandan Information Agency, explained the composition of the group. Cuba, he indicated, is currently chairing the nonaligned movement, and Fidel Castro has left his personal mark on the various stages of the struggle of the Third World peoples. Mr Mfizi also said that Nigeria, which is the current chairman of the group, is the giant of the continent as well as the champion of free Africa. Algeria, he continued, is a country that guards the extreme north of the continent. Yugoslavia is a vanguard country, and former President Tito was the helmsman of the nonaligned movement, the director of the Rwandan Information Agency added.

As for Rwanda, he said, her presence is noticeable today among those nations fighting for peace and real independence.

ZAIRE

CAR PRESIDENT DACKO ENDS FRIENDSHIP VISIT

AB281211 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0935 GMT 28 May 80

[Excerpts] Gbadolite, 27 May (AZAP)--Mr David Dacko, the president of the Central African Republic, and his wife left Gbadolite today after a 24-hour friendship visit to the chief town of the north Ubangui subregion.

On that occasion, President Dacko and his Zairian counterpart and brother, Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, held talks on cooperation between their two countries--talks which the Central African statesman qualified as positive because they started well.

This was confirmed yesterday afternoon when the two statesmen took part at Moyabi-Mbongo in the symbolic detonation of an explosion at the rock which will serve as the base of the hydroelectric dam which is to be built across the international waters of the Ubangui River at that spot. The construction of the dam will be equally financed by Zaire and the Central African Republic. The laying of the foundation stone took place last 20 May in the presence of the general commissioner for planning, Citizen Bokana.

Concerning this cooperation, President Dacko explained that his country, which had suffered great delay, actually relies on brother countries of central Africa, that is, Cameroon, Gabon and Zaire. He emphasized the political, moral and material support that General Mobutu has always granted him, first in private when he was in difficulty, then to his country since he came back to power on 20 September 1979.

Regarding his talks with Citizen Mobutu, President Dacko said that they were centered on two considerations, the sympathy existing between him and President Mobutu, and that his country shared the same political views as Zaire and therefore will benefit from cooperation with this country.

Elaborating on the national reconstruction effort that he planned to achieve, Mr Dacko said that great progress has been made since he came back to power; the roads have been repaired and his government is to launch his agricultural program in the next 2 months.

ZAMBIAN FINANCE MINISTER ENDS VISIT, DEPARTS

AB281937 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1742 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Kinshasa, 28 May (AZAP)--The Zambian minister of finance and member of the Zambian National Assembly, Mr Kebby Musokotwane, left Kinshasa this morning for Lusaka after a short visit of 24 hours to Zaire. He stated shortly after his departure that he had had fruitful discussions with his Zairian counterpart, Citizen Namwisi ma Nkoy. Their discussions centered mainly on the adoption of a common position in the next conference of African finance ministers to be held in Abidjan at the end of June 1980. He was happy to note that certain points were clarified between them (Zaire and Zambia) whereas that was not the case during the recent joint Zaire-Zambian commission meeting. He was seen off at the international airport of Ndjili by the Zambian ambassador to Zaire, Mr Kamwana and the principal adviser at the department of finance, Citizen Muninda.

BENIN

KEREKOU RETURNS FROM LOME SUMMIT, MAKES STATEMENT

AB282117 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 28 May 80

[Excerpts] The heads of the 16 member states of ECOWAS, the Economic Community of West African States, separated today after 2 days of debates. Our great comrade in arms, President Kerekou returned to Cotonou this afternoon [words indistinct]. After inspecting a detachment of the revolutionary armed forces and after greeting the high officials of the party, the members of the diplomatic corps and some members of the crowd, President Kerekou went to the VIP lounge. In an interview he accorded to the press he said that the ECOWAS summit was successful.

The main point discussed at the summit was the question of the defense pact, a collective defense pact. It is precisely this point that President Kerekou stressed this afternoon when he returned from the Togolese capital. President Kerekou also spoke of the good work done at Lome.

[Begin Kerekou recording] I must say that for the first time in the life of the ECOWAS we have done some good work, that is, the experts, heads of state and ministers. Actually we noticed that the heads of delegations have become politically conscious and what impressed us especially was the fact that, this time, all the heads of state and government were concerned with insuring collective security on the African Continent. Indeed, this permanent concern [words indistinct], which is normal and legitimate since here in Benin, for example, we have stressed the need to build a new society where living conditions will be good for all, Under these conditions, if we work, we must produce; and if we produce it is not for others, but for ourselves.

First we must be able to feed ourselves adequately, build reserves to meet natural and unpredictable natural calamities, sell surplus reserves to obtain equipment, which is indispensable for the construction of all types of infrastructure. Under these conditions as we have already said, we must first agree that what we achieve on our national territory should help to improve the living conditions of the popular masses of our towns and villages; and Beninese need not go far to understand the real and deep meaning of the need for the heads of state and government, that is, for African people to insure their collective security in order to preserve what they obtain through their own labor.

Otherwise, if our territories are not protected from mercenary attacks or the attacks of troops for colonial reconquest this means that we will return to the past, that is, the sad slave trade era, the neocolonial era and the period of fratricidal wars caused and supported by the power of money. We underlined this point on collective security since at the time of our departure, the day before yesterday, you had wanted to know the stand of our revolutionary state. At present, the setting up of a theoretical structure is in the period of gestation; therefore, when the time comes we will decide what to do.

We obtained good results which we find satisfactory for us [as heard]. That is why we can say that the work which was done in Lome is positive - [words indistinct]. We are satisfied with what we were able to do. [end recording].

LIBERIA

MATTHEWS DISCUSSES BARRING OF LIBERIAN DELEGATION IN LOME

AB281857 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1755 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] The Liberian head of state, Sgt. Samuel K. Doe, and party returned to Liberia today from Lome, Togo, where they were stopped from taking part in the opening session of the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] summit. Earlier reports from Lome said Nigeria and the Ivory Coast were strongly opposed to Liberia's participation. The Liberian delegation returned home from Lome on board Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure's personal aircraft and was accompanied by the Guinean minister of international cooperation. On arrival at the Roberts International Airport, Sgt Doe was welcomed by an array of PRC [People's Redemption Council] government officials, citizens and friends led by Maj Gen Thomas Wen Syen, cochairman of the People's Redemption Council and also vice head of state.

Meanwhile an explanation from ECOWAS why the Liberian head ofstate and delegation were refused participation in the 2-day fifth summit conference in Lome, Togo, is being awaited by the Liberian Government. The government said today the explanation will hopefully facilitate an assessment of the priorities of ECOWAS and determine Liberia's future role in that regional organization. The Liberian delegation to the ministerial conference headed by plan and economic affairs minister, Dr Togba Nah Tipoteh, participated in all sessions before Togolese president, Gnassingbe Eyadema, summit host, officially invited the Liberian head of state to the summit. A statement from the Liberian delegation said it was a few minutes before the formal opening of the ECOWAS conference yesterday, that President Eyadema notified the Liberian delegation that clarification was being sought and that the Liberian leader should kindly await and receive Togolese Foreign Minister Akakpo-Ahianyo before proceeding to the conference center.

Meanwhile the Liberian Foreign Minister Bacchus Matthews has said that the decision to stop the Liberian head of state, Sgt Samuel Doe, from attending the opening session of the ECOWAS summit in Lome could be conditioned by domestic circumstances in other African countries. Minister Matthews said the situation in Lome had nothing to do with the internal situation in Liberia. The foreign minister said many countries in West Africa have domestic circumstances which have conditioned their external reaction. Minister Matthews also said there have been a number ofcoup attempts in West Africa, the most recent being in Nigeria. He said there could be a correlation between what happened in Liberia and what could happen in other places. Minister Matthews said even though Liberia has not been an inciting force, other countries could draw improper and illogical conclusions from the Liberian situation.

TRIALS OF FORMER OFFICIALS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED

AB282138 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] The trial of former government officials in Monrovia has been suspended temporarily for administrative reasons. According to the chairman of the special military tribunal trying the former government officials, Col Frank Senkpeni, the trial will resume when certain basic necessities have been taken care of.

NIGERIA

TRADE UNION DELEGATION RETURNS FROM 10-DAY VISIT TO USSR

AB282153 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] A delegation of the Nigeria labor congress led by its president, Alhaji (Hassan Shimanu) has returned home after a 10-day visit to the Soviet Union. The 10 members held discussions with representatives of labor movements on ways of strengthening Soviet-Nigerian trade union links. They also exchanged views on some problems affecting the international labor movement and other matters of common interest.

The Nigeria labor congress and its Soviet counterparts paid tribute to the people of Zimbabwe on their attainment of independence and condemned apartheid and racial oppression in South Africa.

SHAGARI CONDEMNS 'WANTON' EXECUTIONS IN LIBERIA

AB280702 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] President Shehu Shagari has said that Nigeria has started to implement the protocol of the Economic Community of West African States on the free movement of people. He stated that already a large number of nationals from member nations had been taking advantage of Nigeria's ratification of the treaty to stream into the country. President Shehu, who was addressing the opening session of ECOWAS in Lome, Togo, however expressed displeasure that since the signing of the treaty a year ago, only 6 out of the 16 member nations had so far ratified the protocol. He appealed to those nations which had not done so to honor their pledge and ratify the agreement.

At the press briefing later, President Shehu Shagari said Nigeria was totally opposed to the wanton execution and humiliation to which the family of the late President Tolbert and members of his government had been subjected. He remarked that if such a situation was encouraged, Africa might find herself in a position of instability that would not be healthy to general economic, cultural and social development. The president stated categorically that Nigeria would remain opposed to the participation of Liberia in ECOWAS with the type of government in power in that country at present.

SHAGARI RETURNS TO LAGOS FROM LOME ECOWAS SUMMIT

AB282156 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 28 May 80

[Excerpt] President Shehu Shagari returned to Lagos this evening after attending the summit conference of the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, in Lome, Togo. Addressing a news conference before his departure for home, President Shehu Shagari said that he was impressed by the spirit shown by the leaders who participated in the conference. He disclosed that the meeting took concrete steps to keep the ECOWAS moving in the right direction as a model for similar organizations in other parts of Africa.

BRIEFS

NIGERIAN TELEVISION PLAN--The contract scheme for the building of the Nigerian television complex in Yola, Gongola State, has been revised from 383,000 naira to 660,000 naira. A statement from the state commissioner for internal affairs and information said that the decision to revise the scheme followed the government's acceptance of a report submitted by the commission appointed to look into the cause of the delay in completing the project. [Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 25 May 80]

ANGOLA

MOBUTU ENVOY DELIVERS MESSAGE TO DOS SANTOS

AB280608 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1637 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Luanda 27 May (AZAP)--The president of the MPLA-Workers Party and of the People's Republic of Angola, Mr Jose Eduardo dos Santos, this morning received Mr Nimi Mayidika Ngimbi, director of the office of the president of the Republic of Zaire, who delivered a message from General Mobutu. The special envoy from President Mobutu arrived in Luanda this morning and was welcomed by Carlos Fernandes, secretary to the Angolan president for external relations and [name indistinct], the Zairian charge d'affaires in Angola.

YUGOSLAV, ANGOLAN OFFICIALS DISCUSS JOINT OIL VENTURE

LD281048 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0904 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Luanda, May 28, (TANJUG)--A Yugoslav delegation headed by chairman of the Yugoslav Committee for Agriculture Milovan Zidar, has held talks here with Angolan Minister for Foreign Trade Lopo do Nascimento and Minister for Petroleum Jorge Maoris.

During the talks with Nascimento, the parties discussed Yugoslavia's and Angola's potentials in the field of foreign trade and agriculture and subsidiary industries.

In the talks with Morais the Yugoslav delegation discussed the possibilities of establishing cooperation between the two countries in the field of energy, above all in joint oil exploitation.

The Yugoslav delegation today finished its 1-week visit to Angola.

MOZAMBIQUE

TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE ON MOZAMBIQUE-ZIMBABWE TALKS

LD281226 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 28 May 80 EA

[Text] The National Defense Ministry issued a communique in Maputo last night. It reads:

On 27 May 1980, talks were held in Salisbury between senior delegations of the People's Republic of Mozambique and the Republic of Zimbabwe.

The Mozambique delegation, which was led by the national political commissar of the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FPLM], included Sebastiao Mobote, deputy national defense minister and chief of the general staff of the FPLM; Jacinto Veloso, minister of security; and Joao Americo Mpfumo, commander of the Mozambique People's Air Force. The Zimbabwean delegation, led by E. Munangangwa, minister of state in the office of the prime minister, included the chief of defense and security of Zimbabwe.

The talks were a followup to the meeting held in Beira on 23 May 1980 between his excellency Samora Machel, President of the PRM, and his excellency Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister of the Republic of Zimbabwe. The talks defined practical ways to establish close cooperation and coordination in the vital areas of defense and security. The two delegations underscored the need to preserve and consolidate peace and stability in our region in order to guarantee the prosperity and social progress of our peoples and safeguard the two countries' national independence.

The meeting was held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and frank cordiality and was successful.

The two sides also agreed on the need to strengthen coordination and on concrete ways to promote future cooperation and joint actions.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO REJECTS S. AFRICAN NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE CONDITIONS

LD272018 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 27 May 80 EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--The Namibian liberation organization, SWAPO, has rejected outright the conditions laid down recently by the South African Boer regime concerning the independence of the colony of Namibia, describing them as intrigues aimed at exterminating the organization. SWAPO said the conditions made it ever more determined to prepare for a more intensified attack on the regime which is occupying Namibia in violation of UN demands.

In a statement presented today to the 3-day session of subcommittees of the OAU liberation committee in Dar es Salaam, SWAPO's secretary for foreign relations, Ndugu (Peter Mwashihange), called on the United Nations not to be taken in by these intrigues of the Boer regime. Ndugu (Mwashihange) called on the United Nations to impose immediate sanctions on South Africa because of its intransigence in rejecting a settlement. He also called on western countries, which claim to be involved in the Namibian independence crisis, to stop defending the Boer regime by using the veto.

The meeting of subcommittees of the OAU liberation committee is preparing a statement on finance, administration and defense, which will be presented to the committee's ordinary session at the end of this month.

SOUTH AFRICA

BLACK BORDER SECURITY UNITS TO BE FORMED

LD241700 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] The South African Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Mr P.W. Botha has announced new measures to protect South Africa's borders including the formation of black regional units at various places. In a statement issued in Pretoria, he said as part of the country's total strategy for protection of its borders, a number of new measures had been adopted. These included the formation of a number of area headquarters and battalion headquarters for counterinsurgency and creation of strong points on a decentralized basis at strategic points within the country.

Mr Botha said black regional units were being formed and black soldiers had already started undergoing training at places such as Amsterdam in the eastern Transvaal where 111 Battalion would consist of Swazis, (Kradimbo) in the northern Transvaal where 112 Battalion would consist of Vendas, (Inapala) in the northeastern Transvaal where 113 Battalion would consist of Shangaans, and (Jarzili) in northern Natal where 121 Battalion would consist of Zulus. Planning was underway for the formation of more units in other places in the Transvaal, the Orange Free State and the Cape Province.

Mr Botha said the formation of these units would not only give black people the opportunity of making an even greater contribution towards the defense of the country and the black national states but would also make a contribution of easing unemployment in these areas.

ZAMBIA

FOREIGN MINISTER CHAKULYA VISITS VIETNAM

For Vietnamese coverage of the arrival of Zambian Foreign Minister W.M. Chakulya in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and his meeting with Premier Pham Van Dong, see the Vietnam section of the 29 May issue of the Asia and Pacific DAILY REPORT.

ZIMBABWE

GOVERNMENT INTRODUCES MINIMUM WAGE POLICY

LD281726 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 28 May 80 CA

[Text] The government has introduced a national minimum wage policy from 1 July. In announcing this decision today, the minister of labor, Comrade Kangai, said that in view of the present industrial unrest, the government wishes to bring immediate benefit to the lowest paid workers without endangering the economic expansion of the economy or causing widespread redundancies in the workforce. He said that a bill will be introduced into Parliament during its current session which the government expects to pass through both houses of the legislature by 1 July. The provisions of the bill allow for the minimum wage of all industrial workers in the urban areas, with the exception of workers in the agricultural industries, to be $70 a month from 1 July, rising to $80 a month on 1 January 1981. The minimum cash wage for workers in the mining industry will be set at $43 a month in view of the benefits in kind allowed workers in the industry, which the government assesses at $27 a month. For both agricultural workers and domestic workers the minimum wage from July will be $30 in cash. Comrade Kangai said the government is mindful that those who deserve the greatest consideration are those urban workers who receive no benefits in kind and bear the brunt of any cost of living increases. The government has borne in mind, said the minister, that mining industry workers receive a number of benefits in kind. This situation will be investigated to establish whether these benefit -re adequate. He said that the industrial board for the agricultural industry will be recalled in the near future to examine the wage structure in the industry for the next growing season. The minimum wage bill to go before Parliament will permit the minister of labor and social services to fix minimum wages notwithstanding existing legislation on industrial agreement. It will allow for the establishment of a minimum wages commission, which will review wages periodically, and it will provide that it will be an offence to discharge a worker because of the minimum wage provision. A committee will be set up to examine and recommend on the conditions of service for domestic workers, such as the provision of food, accommodation and hours of work. All these measures, said the minister, are only a stop-gap, to allow the government time to study the whole question of workers' conditions. The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, will be setting up at an early date a commission on wages, prices and workers' conditions to conduct an in-depth survey of the whole question. The introduction of a unified pension scheme will also be studied. The minister issued an earnest appeal to all workers to cease any form of strike action, which can only harm the country's economy. He asked for patience and restraint, to allow the government to conduct its necessary investigations. Comrade Kangai said that if his appeal is not heeded, and the workers involved in strikes persist in their action, then the government will have no alternative but to take whatever action is necessary to ensure that the country as a whole does not suffer.

The commission to be set up by the prime minister will examine retail prices carefully, for it would be pointless to increase wages only to have them negated by rising prices. Government approval will have to be sought for any increase in the prices of basic foodstuffs. While no worker can take it upon himself to strike, similarly no employer can lay off people without the approval of the government.